COLUMBIA LIBRARIES OFFSITE
AVERY FINE ARTS RESTRICTED
AR01410539

Ex Libris

SEYMOUR DURST

FORT NEW AMSTERDAM (NEW YORK), 1651

When you leave, please leave this book
Because it has been said
"Ever'thing comes t' him who waits
Except a loaned book."

GYL 4540 BOX 4

AVERY ARCHITECTURAL AND FINE ARTS LIBRARY

GIFT OF SEYMOUR B. DURST OLD YORK LIBRARY

ABOUT THIS BOOK

In 1831, when this book was originally published, the population of Manhattan Island was about 203,000, and there were two severe problems facing the community. Mass transportation, consisting of horse-drawn stages and, somewhat later, of horse-drawn "trolley" cars, was considered woefully insufficient, and fire protection was tragically inadequate. One of the great values of the volume is that it pictures some of the 700 buildings in the heart of the city that burned to the ground in December 1835. Only a scattering of the dwellings and institutions erected in the Dutch period survived the "Great Fire."

In those days, "Manhattan" occupied the area south of residential Union Square. To the north were pasture lands and farms. Students made their way across fields to attend a free academy at 23d Street (it has since become part of the City University of New York). This book will guide you through that Manhattan and far beyond — it will make you laugh and it will make you wistful as it pictures and describes the city and environs.

We hope this book enables you to share in our affection for what has become our home.

Arthur Ochs Sulzberger
Publisher
The New York Times

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

https://archive.org/details/viewsinnewyorkit00fayt_0

VIEWS

IN

NEW-YORK

And its Environs,

FROM

Accurate, Characteristic & Picturesque

DRAWINGS,

Taken on the spot, expressly for this work,

BY

DAKIN, ARCHITECT,

with

HISTORICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL & CRITICAL ILLUSTRATIONS,

by

THEODORE S. FAY.

Assisted by several Distinguished Literary Gentlemen.

New York.

PUBLISHED BY PEABODY & Co. 233 BROADWAY,

(Opposite the Park.)

London:

O RICH N° 12, RED LION SQUARE

IDCCCXXXI.

Ant. Filicchi

AM
735
N4
F291

Drawn by J H Dakin

NEW YORK

Drawn by J H Dakin

Engraved by Barnard & Dick

BROADWAY FROM THE PARK.

New York Published June 1831 by Peabody & Co. London G Rich No 32 Red Lion Square

Drawn J. H. Dakin. Engraved by Barnard & Dick.

BOWLING GREEN,

Broadway

Drawn by J. H. Dakin Engraved by Barnard & Dick

RESIDENCE OF FELIX LOVE ESQ.

2nd American Hotel, Broadway

New York Published June 1831 by Peabody & Co. London [illegible] Red Lion Square

TO

PHILIP HONE, Esq.

THIS WORK

IS, BY PERMISSION, RESPECTFULLY

DEDICATED,

BY THE PUBLISHERS.

INTRODUCTION.

The Proprietors of "Views in New York and its Environs," do not deem any apology necessary for offering them, at this time, to the public.

There are many obvious reasons why Literature and the Arts in the United States, have not equalled those of older countries; but the restraints upon their progress are annually becoming less important. The excuses, behind which we have so long sheltered ourselves from the observations of foreign critics, will soon be inapplicable to our situation: we shall not always be an *infant* country; and, if we ever intend to develope our materials and talents, instead of depending exclusively upon those of our trans-atlantic brethren, this seems to be the proper period. Commerce has enriched the land—education is broadly diffused, and the vigorous hardihood and simplicity of a youthful nation are already giving place to the refinements of wealth and luxury. The capital which has hitherto rushed impetuously through the channels of business, will now flow in pursuit of elegance and pleasure, and may be easily directed to the cultivation of the Arts and Sciences. There is nothing to prevent our constructing a National Literature, under the influence of which the Arts will flourish most successfully, but a tame admission, not only of present inferiority, but of an incapacity to improve.

The enlightened policy of our government leads us far from the gory track of war. Instead of courting the dangerous triumphs of foreign conquests, it teaches us the advantage of cultivating our own internal resources. We enjoy the most friendly relations with every people on the globe. Our ancient battle-fields, overgrown with the golden harvest, are the undisturbed possessions of the husbandman. The cannon's rude throat is silent among us, or only speaks in token of our happiness. Instead of soldiers and heroes, we have poets, orators and artists, with leisure to pursue the occupations of peace.

Under these circumstances, the patronage of a discriminating public may be confidently anticipated for works similar to that which at present engages our attention.

Actuated by a hope that the subject is happily chosen, the proprietors flatter themselves that their endeavors to render it interesting, will not be altogether unsuccessful.

NEW YORK, JUNE, 1831.

NEW YORK AND ITS ENVIRONS.

CHAPTER I.

"Trade and joy, in every busy street,
Mingling are heard: Even drudgery himself,
As at the car he sweats, or dusky hews
The palace-stone, looks gay. Thy crowded ports,
Where rising masts an endless prospect yield,
With labor burn, and echo to the shouts
Of hurried sailor, as he hearty waves
His last adieu, and loosening every sheet,
Resigns the spreading vessel to the wind."

[*Thomson.*

When the renowned Captain Hendrick Hudson, in the year 1609, sailed through the Narrows, and approached the Island of Manahatta, he beheld a solitude almost as deep as that of the primeval ages. His vessel penetrated into the broad Bay—breaking in upon the wide loneliness of nature, and heralding a mighty people into the recesses of a new world. It was in the full bloom of summer. The shores were covered with forests; massive grape vines were wreathed like serpents among the branches of the aged trees, and their purple fruit hung clustering in the sun. The song of innumerable birds came from the land, and along the wave glided the rapid Indian canoe. The island itself, now occupied by the city represented in the first engraving, was of a wild and rough aspect. The waves dashed over a broken and rocky beach, which was indented with deep inlets, while the interior was covered with swamps, hills, ponds, and thick forests. What emotions would rise in the bosom of the worthy navigator, could he revisit the scene of his early adventure!

There are few spectacles at once more grateful and more magnificent to the weary wanderer over the ocean, than that which rises up before him, like a

lovely dream, as he passes the Narrows, and is wafted by fair breezes towards the city of New York. The green shores of Long and Staten Islands, within less than a quarter of a mile of each other, slope down to the water's edge, and form the gates of the harbor. When "radiant summer opens all her pride," they are clothed with the luxuriant harvest, and dotted with dwellings of peace and plenty. A vast city with its bristling forest of masts and spires, rises suddenly in the distance, sending forth the hum of more than two hundred thousand inhabitants. He inhales the mingled perfumes which the wind bears from wood and field, from vallies of clover, and gardens of flowers. Immense steamboats, superior to any other in the world, plough the waters around him, and shape their steady course in different directions; and ships, with white sails spread, are returning, storm-beaten, from their perilous voyages, or hurrying forth, through the narrow outlet, to distant quarters of the globe. Forts command the prominent stations, and vessels of war, like castles, are resting on the wave.

Perhaps no situation could be chosen for a more advantageous survey of the city, with its surrounding scenery, than that part of the Bay adjoining Governor's Island, and near the fort, a portion of which appears on the extreme left of the picture, and whence the present view was taken.

The opening discernible on the right, is the passage termed the East River, leading from the Bay into the Sound, between Long and York Islands, and thence along the shores of Connecticut and Rhode Island, into the Atlantic. The eye can almost pierce to that point of the strait entitled Hurl Gate, but, by the lovers of the marvellous, dignified with an appellation which would seem to conduct the traveller into a region of a very different description from the pleasant hills and orchards, the costly dwellings, and the humble but bright looking cottages, that make the banks of this stream a succession of charming pictures.

The small promontory jutting out on the eastern side, represents that part of Long Island occupied by the village of Brooklyn and the Navy Yard.

On the left, the eye seeks to explore the windings of the Hudson or North River. In many respects this stream may be considered one of the most important in the world. It is effected by the tide more than a hundred and sixty miles towards its source. Its steamboat navigation is unobstructed, and it presents

facilities for commerce of an extraordinary and tempting nature. The magnificent canal, which strikes it at Albany, connects the city of New York with Lake Erie, and thence with the interior and most western portion of the Union. This stupendous work, which directly augments the prosperity of more than two millions of people, is but a single branch in the vast plan of internal improvement, of which Dewitt Clinton was the most influential promoter, and which equally associates his name with the glory of the state, and the increasing importance of the city.

We cannot regard the point where this lordly river pours its silver waters into the bay, without a strong desire to follow our imagination through the picturesque and romantic scenery which decorates its winding banks, and which is interwoven with some of the most interesting incidents of the American revolution, but we must be content to call the attention of the reader to that pleasant summer resort in the State of New Jersey, called Hoboken, which is dimly visible in the distance over the fort adjoining the city. To this verdant and refreshing spot the citizens flock in throngs, to escape the dust, noise, and heat of the town, during the prevalence of the summer sun, and here to enjoy the social party, or when

> "the soft hour
> Of walking comes: for him who lonely loves
> To seek the distant hills, and there converse
> With nature;"

the fancy of the poet, painter, or lover, could scarcely desire a scene more beautiful.

At all times the view of the metropolis of the State is imposing; but should the stranger approach it at the close of a pleasant summer day, he would find the scene yet more enchanting. At this period the bustle of business is superseded by the voice of pleasure. As he draws near the Battery, he perceives that the fort has changed its martial character, and been metamorphosed into a garden and pleasant promenade. The stillness of the evening is sometimes broken by the sound of the rushing rocket, as it darts into the spangled heaven, illuminating the scene with a glare of temporary radiance, and sometimes by bursts of music, softened by the distance, as it floats over the placid water. Now you may hear the drum from Governor's Island, and now the song of the sailor

from the distant ship, which is preparing again to encounter the perils of the deep; while the regular dash of the oar, as some occasional boat glides by, adds to the charm of the music, and increases the interest of the scene.

At such a time, while the eye dwells upon the mass of buildings which compose the thriving city of Manahatta, we cannot forego the pride and pleasure of rejoicing that the thousands within her limits have no great national cause for mourning. They are convulsed with no awful revolution—they cringe beneath no despotic power—they dread no foreign foe. Freedom, peace, and plenty are in their dwellings, and their destiny is as unclouded as the glorious vault of heaven which stretches with all its stars above their heads.

In the second plate, the spectator is supposed to stand near the south-east corner of the Park, with his face towards the Battery. From this position, two prominent buildings meet his view. The large and showy edifice on the left, recently erected by Mr. F. Olmstead, is occupied, as a Museum, by Mr. Scudder. It forms a fair specimen of that system of improvement which, within a few years, has to so great an extent changed the aspect of the city. Groups of dilapidated wooden hovels, intersected by dark, narrow, and filthy lanes, the abode of squalid misery, are continually passing away, and giving place to broadened streets and lofty mansions. This appearance of cheerfulness, splendor, and beauty, where the eye has been accustomed to gloom and decay, strikes the mind like the rapidity of dramatic scenery, where a robber's cave, or a wintry prospect, is suddenly metamorphosed into a kingly palace, or a garden of blooming flowers. The present arsenal, in Elm Street, once stood on an island, and there are persons at present in the city who remember to have seen a field of wheat waving in the breeze, on the spot where now rise the graceful columns and lofty spire of St. Paul's Chapel, in the right of the picture. This fine structure is esteemed the best specimen of architecture in the city. It was first opened for divine service on the 30th of October, 1776, and has always belonged to the parish of Trinity Church. It is principally constructed of gray stone, and is of the Corinthian order. Beneath the portico is a monument, erected to the memory of General Montgomery, who was killed at the storming of Quebec; and in the large cemetery in the rear is one to the memory of the French General, Rochfontaine, who fought in the service of the United States during the revolution, and died in this city in 1814. The celebrated tragedian, George F.

Cooke, also here reposes in death, within a short distance of the spot where his brilliant bursts of genius were greeted with the acclamations of thousands, many of whom, perchance, lie by his side.

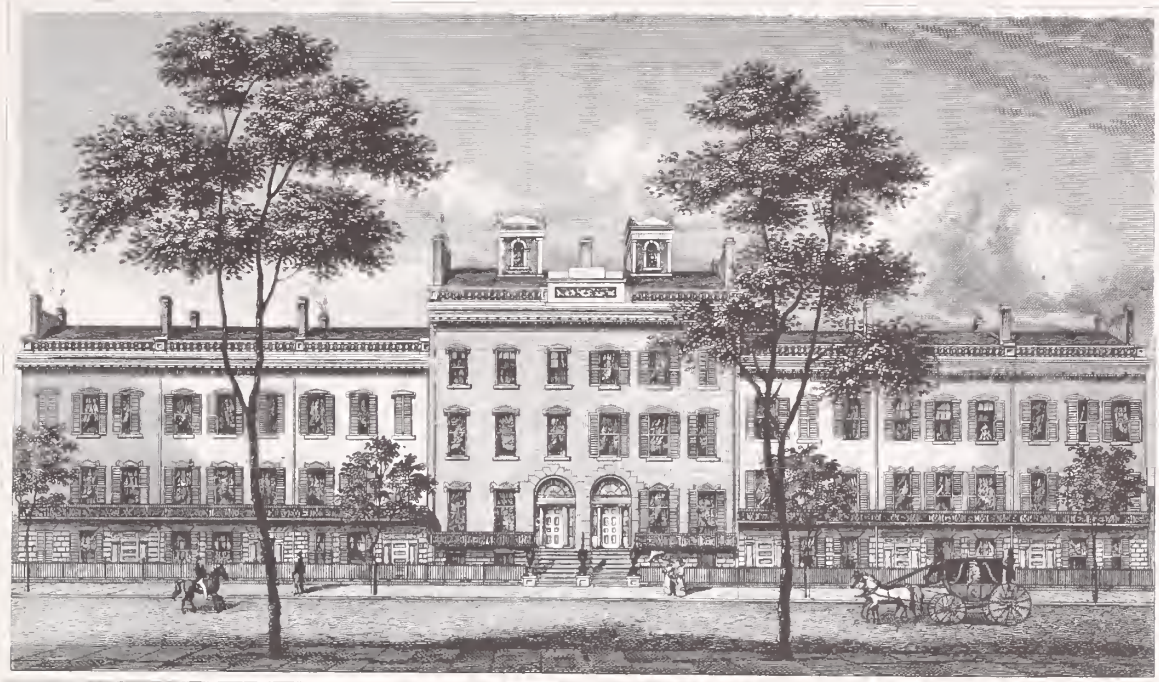
Passing down Broadway, we approach the scene represented in plate third. Here we find one of the few green spots which the negligence of our ancestors has left for the health and ornament of our metropolis. This beautiful circle of verdure is the Bowling Green, which derives its name from having been originally appropriated, as a place of amusement, to the game of "bowles." It is celebrated as the spot selected by the whigs for the scene of one of their most patriotic achievements. On the sixth of November, in the year 1765, the day on which the notorious *Stamp Act* was to go into operation, the people assembled, took out the governor's carriage, dragged it to the common, (the present Park) and there, upon a gallows, suspended his effigy, having in his right hand a stamped bill of lading, and in his left the figure of a personage not to be "named to ears polite." After it had hung for some time, they bore it, with the gallows and carriage, to the Bowling Green, where they burnt the whole, amidst the general applause of a very large audience. This enclosure was originally designed to protect an equestrian figure of George III., which, however, was prostrated soon after the declaration of independence. The pediment has been much more recently removed. It is to be hoped that the spot may be ornamented with a statue of Washington. Such a design has for a long time been a topic of conversation.

Broadway, which commences at this point, extends nearly three miles in a northerly direction. It is slightly undulated, and, except the graceful sweep of buildings by the Bowling Green, forms a straight line to Thirteenth Street.

The last engraving to which we shall solicit the attention of the reader in this number, is a very correct delineation of the American Hotel, in Broadway, on the corner of Barclay Street. This commanding establishment faces the Park, and is in the immediate vicinity of the Theatre. On the same side of the street are discovered the elegant store of Messrs. Peabody & Co., the proprietors of the present work, and adjoining, the mansion of Philip Hone, Esq., to whom it is dedicated.

In closing our brief and cursory survey, we are again impressed with surprise at the revolutions which have taken place in the city within the memory of many yet

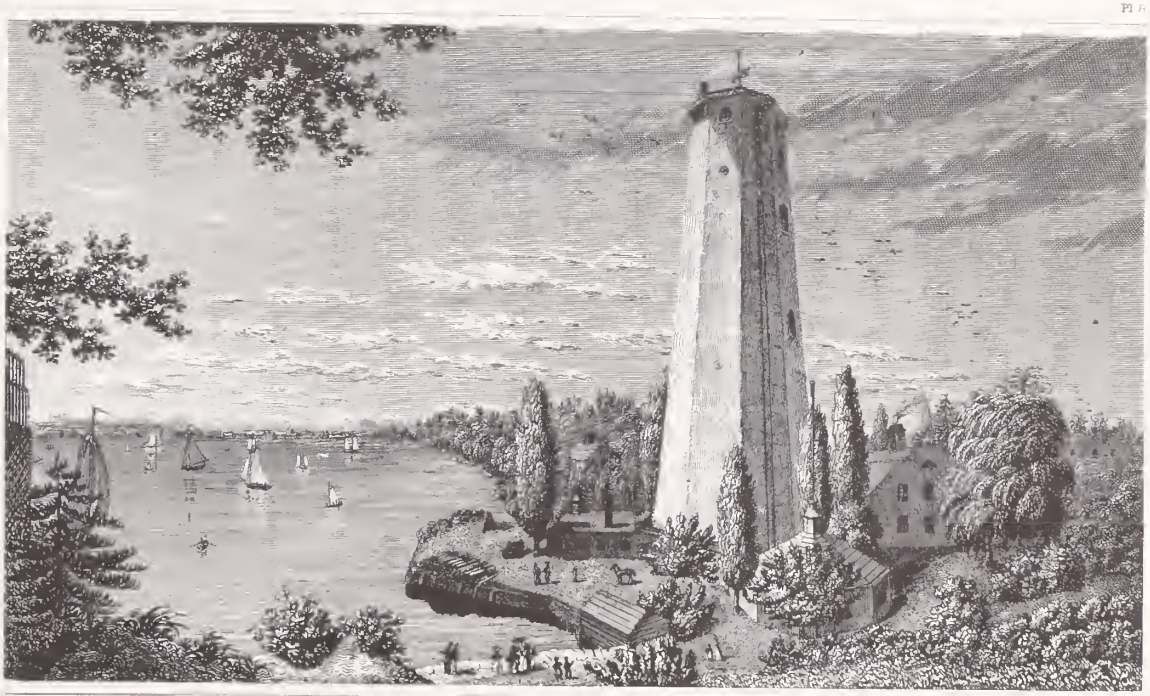
alive. We continually meet the venerable relics of the last generation, who recount strange things of the old town of Manahatta. Such an one, as he totters along, with silver head and feeble steps, through the scenes of splendor which have arisen so unexpectedly around him, is full of curious but mournful recollections. He lingers over the past with mingled pride, regret, and wonder. He speaks of canals; swamps, and ponds long since filled up; of lanes and commons which live only in his remembrance; of hills now levelled; forests cut down; and bridges forgotten, with the streams which they crossed. Of a thousand of the gay and the beautiful he will point out the graves—he will tell you that even the magnificence which has thus grown up under his eye, only makes him feel like a stranger; all his old haunts are broken up, his friends have passed away, and he murmurs with the poet, "Earth encloses them. The grass grows between the stones of their tomb. I often sit in the mournful shade. The wind sighs through the trees. Their memory rushes on my mind."



rawn by Davis

Engraved by Dick

LEROY PLACE.



rawn by Lundie

Engraved by Dick

SHOT TOWER.

East River

Printed by Miller

CHAPTER II.

"——And as he considered it more attentively, he fancied that the great volume of smoke assumed a variety of forms, where in dim obscurity he saw shadowed out palaces, and domes, and lofty spires, all of which lasted but a moment, until the whole rolled off, and nothing but the green woods were left. And when St. Nicholas had smoked his pipe, he twisted it in his hat-band, and laying his finger beside his nose, gave the astonished Van Kortlandt a very significant look; then, mounting his wagon, he returned over the tree tops and disappeared. . . . . .

"And Van Kortlandt awóke from his sleep greatly instructed, and related his dream, and interpreted it, that it was the will of St. Nicholas that they should settle down and build the city here."

[*Diedrich Knickerbocker.*

It is both curious and amusing to trace the progress of the city of New York from its early insignificance to its present importance and character. In sixteen hundred and fifty three it was secured against sudden attacks of the aborigines by "a great wall of earth and stones, running between Wall and Pine Streets, from the North to the East River." A gate, near the present corner of Wall and Pearl Streets, was called the Water Gate, and another, in Broadway, the Land Gate.

The striking changes in its physical appearance have been accompanied by revolutions, equally remarkable, in the spirit of the laws, and the manners of the people. On the sixth of June, of the same year, the Directors of the West India Company, at Amsterdam, "granted liberty to particular merchants to send two or three ships to the Coast of Africa, to purchase slaves, and to promote the settlement of the country by importing the same."

In sixteen hundred and seventy five we find the "watch set at eight o'clock every evening, after ringing of the bell, and the city gates locked up at nine, and opened again at daylight. No cursing and swearing permitted." About this time the Common Council refused the petition of the Jews for liberty to exercise their religion.

The ignorance of our ancestors respecting the destiny of the city is every where visible in the careless irregularity with which they suffered it to grow up around them, and the frequent sales and grants of lands which they permitted upon the most trifling considerations. We find, for example, in the records of the Common Council, a vote that "all the lands in front of the *Vly*, from the Block House to Mr. Beekman's, should be sold: that from the Block House to the Green Lane, or Maagde Padtje, (now Maiden Lane,) be valued at five and twenty shillings per foot." The word *Vly* is an abbreviation of Valey, or *Valley*, and was in use among the Dutch to denote a *Marsh*, or *Salt Meadow*. The Vly or *Fly* Market, destroyed on the building of the Fulton Market, was surrounded by a *Salt Meadow*, and distinguished as the Market *in the Marsh*.

In seventeen hundred and thirty four the Battery was ordered to be "kept clear of houses from Whitehall to Eeld's corner," now Marketfield Street.

It was about this period that cartmen were forbidden to ride on their carts, and enjoined to behave civilly to all; the Governor was publicly congratulated upon his return in safety from a voyage to Albany; the whole of Staten Island was sold to the Dutch by the Indians for ten shirts, thirty pair of stockings, ten guns, thirty bars of lead, thirty pounds of powder, some hoes, kettles, knives, and awls; and to a quere in council, "whether or not attornies are useful to plead in courts?" it was dryly answered, "*it is thought not!*" "In those primitive days," says a grave and accurate historian, "the busy hum of multitudes, the shouts of revelrie, the rumbling equipages of fashion, and all the spirit-grieving sounds of brawling commerce, were unknown in New Amsterdam. The grass grew quietly in the high ways—the bleating sheep and frolicsome calves sported about the verdant ridge, where the Broadway lounger takes his morning stroll—the cunning fox, or ravenous wolf skulked in the woods, where now are to be seen the dens of Gomez, and his righteous fraternity of money-brokers; and flocks of vociferous geese cackled about the field, where, at present, the great Tammany Wigwam, and the patriotic tavern of Martling, echo with the wranglings of the mob."

Notwithstanding this pleasant picture of rural simplicity, the city was so far advanced in wealth and population in the year sixteen hundred and forty four, as to feel the necessity of a public edifice, in which the citizens might hold

their courts and public meetings. Accordingly, in that year, under the reign of Governor Kieffi, the first *City Hall*, Stadt-Huys, or Tavern, was erected on the corner of Pearl Street and Coenties Slip, on the ground now occupied by the fine buildings of the Brinkerhoffs. It was constructed of stone, three stories high, at the expense of the West India Company, and termed the " Company's Tavern." Strangers who on arriving in the city were accustomed to be received in the Governor's house, here found a more suitable abode. Having grown unfit for further use, after the expiration of nearly sixty years, it was "sold by public *outcry*," to John Rodman, merchant, for nine hundred and twenty pounds sterling, in the year sixteen hundred and ninety nine. In the vaults and cellars of the buildings of the Brinkerhoffs, its ruins may yet be easily traced.

The city then proceeded with all speed to erect a new Hall, "at the *end* of one of the principal streets," about the year seventeen hundred. This second edifice was situated on the corner of Nassau and Wall Streets, where the Custom House now stands. It cost eleven hundred and fifty one pounds, eighteen shillings and threepence, and is represented as " a modest, plain, substantial building." A spacious portico, resting on arches, with arcades underneath, was added to the new hall, in the second story of which, and facing Broad Street, General Washington was inaugurated first President of the United States.

On the twenty sixth of September, in the year eighteen hundred and three, and during the mayoralty of Edward Livingston, Esq., was laid the foundation-stone of the third City Hall, represented in the first engraving. It was finished in eighteen hundred and twelve, at an expense of half a million of dollars. This splendid structure, situated in the enclosure called the Park, and on elevated ground, is extremely ornamental to the city, of which it is the principal building, and one of the handsomest of its size in the United States. It is of a square form, two stories high, besides a basement story. Its length is two hundred and sixteen, its breadth one hundred and five, and its height, including the attic, sixty five feet. The material of the front and both ends, above the basement story, is native white marble, while that of the lower parts, and the whole of the rear, from an anomalous taste in architecture, is brown freestone. The roof is covered with copper and surrounded with a ballustrade of marble. The cupola, on the summit of which stands a collossal figure of Justice, has been recently elevated, to make room for a clock of large dimensions, which, by means of a transparent illuminated dial, is intended to be useful by night as well

as by day. It also contains a bell weighing upwards of six thousand pounds. The first story, including the portico, is of the Ionic, the second of the Corinthian, the attic of the Fancy, and the cupola of the Composite orders. By a flight of twelve marble steps, and beneath a portico supported by sixteen columns of the same material, you are conducted through the principal entrance into the lobby, the roof of which rests on twenty square piers of marble. Besides a stair case in each end, which leads from the first to the second story, there is one, of the geometrical construction, ascending towards a circular gallery, railed in, and floored with marble. Ten marble columns rise to the ceiling, which here displays a lofty and highly decorated dome, from the top of which the light falls upon the interior, through an horizontal, circular window. Another gallery runs in the centre from one end to the other. In the first story, apartments are allotted to the first Judge, Recorder, Mayor, Clerks to the Common Council, County Clerk, Street Commissioner, Sheriff, Register, Clerk of the Supreme Court, to Committees, and the housekeeper. In the second story, are the Common Council Rooms, the Governor's Room, Comptroller's Office, Circuit Court, Superior Court, Supreme Court, and United States' Circuit and District Courts.

Concerning the various offices and courts, however, which have been, for a long period, located in this edifice, it may be necessary to observe that several new arrangements are in contemplation. The jail which, situated but a few yards from the eastern wing of the Hall, has, until within a few weeks, greatly counteracted the beauty of this view by its gloomy and unprepossessing exterior, is undergoing a transformation, and will soon be converted into a structure of more than ordinary elegance.

The Governor's Room leads out upon the second story of the front portico, and commands an agreeable view of one of the most busy and fashionable parts of the city. It is hung with paintings of eminent statesmen and soldiers, by Inman, Jarvis, Morse, and other American artists.

The Common Council Room measures forty two by thirty feet. It is furnished with taste, and contains, as the seat of the Mayor, the chair used by General Washington, when he presided at the first congress held at this city. Here, also, are full-length portraits of several men, celebrated in the history of the nation. They are well executed by Colonel Trumbull. The principal apartments in the basement

story were, until lately, the Marine and Justices' Court, and the Police Office. The latter is opened by sunrise every morning, except Sunday, to take cognizance of offences committed against the peace. The Keeper of the Hall, with his family, resides in the building. It is his duty to keep it clean, and in good order, and after three o'clock, P. M., on every day, except Sundays, a person is ready, for a trifling gratuity, to attend company through the rooms, and to ascend into the cupola, which affords a fine panoramic view of the city and harbor, with the environs.

The second plate presents a view of the Navy Yard, taken from the wreck of the Steam Frigate, destroyed, about a year ago, by the explosion of her powder magazine, and with the loss of many lives. This awful calamity is too fresh in the memory of our fellow citizens to require any detailed account. One of the most striking incidents connected with it was the gallant behaviour of Mr. Joseph Eckford, of the navy, and son of Henry Eckford, Esq. His cool and even cheerful patience during the protracted attempts to rescue him from an agonizing situation were regarded with painful interest. The lines of Halleck are brought to mind on viewing the wreck of the Fulton:

"She has borne in days departed
Warm hearts upon her deck—
Those hearts, like her, are mouldering now."

The Navy Yard itself is situated at Brooklyn, Long Island, or Nassau Island, immediately opposite the city. Steamboats continually ply across the East River, from various points, and at intervals of only a few minutes, by which the communication between the two islands is rendered easy, cheap, and rapid.

The Wallaboght, or Wallabout Bay, on which the Navy Yard is located, takes its name from the Dutch words *Waallen*, Walloons, and *Boght*, Cove; and was derived from the *Walloons*, or Dutch Protestants, of French extraction, who first settled there, and whose names and descendants still remain. They emigrated from the banks of the River *Waal* in the Netherlands.

In sixteen hundred thirty two and three the Dutch began to settle on the western end of Long Island. It had been previously inhabited by a treacherous and powerful tribe of Indians, who possessed many canoes large enough to carry eighty men.

The Navy Yard was commenced in March, eighteen hundred and one, by the purchase of forty acres of land for forty thousand dollars. It is, at present, under the superintendence of Commodore Chauncy, and other efficient officers. Stores of every description are provided, carefully arranged, and securely covered, and guarded by a company of marines.

The value of the public property frequently collected here, may be estimated at ten millions of dollars. This port has received the preference by the government, as the principal naval depot.

Of the American Navy, our limits preclude the possibility of entering into any details. An idea of its real strength, however, cannot be formed from the number of ships, their weight of metal, discipline, or general preparation for service, as it is the existing policy of government to preserve the public vessels already built, and provide materials for future use, rather than to increase the present number. Mr. Branch, the late Secretary of the Navy, in a recent report to the President of the United States, observes that "the great expense attending the support of so large a naval force as may be occasionally required, to give security to the commercial pursuits of the nation, makes it a matter of leading importance that a system be pursued which shall place the resources of the country in a condition to be readily brought into action, whenever the necessity presents itself, without incurring the expense of maintaining such large force when its services are not wanted."

The buildings in plate third are situated about a mile and a quarter from the City Hall, in a part of Bleecker Street which has recently received the appellation of Le Roy Place. They are distinguished by nothing extraordinary, and little more concerning them can be gathered from books, or gleaned from the lips of the living, than that they have been erected but a few years, and afford a new evidence of the surprising improvements visible in the city. A marked deviation from every rule of regularity is one of the most striking peculiarities in the streets of New York. While some run in straight lines, others describe a circuitous course, which, after many circumlocutions, at length conduct the bewildered stranger near the very spot whence he commenced his peregrinations, and many traverse the city obliquely, giving rise to certain squares with three sides and entailing upon some of the inhabitants the necessity of triangular rooms. The houses present numerous instances of the same inconsistency. A fine block may sometimes be observed wherein each

is of different height and composed of various materials. Several of the beautiful new structures in the plate are of gray stone, others of brick; on one side, as the observer will perceive, the centre one is elevated, while on the other all are alike. They, however, have a uniform color, and present an imposing appearance. Many of our citizens have beheld the ground which they occupy, and which is now covered with a dense mass of elegant buildings, once laid out in pleasant farms, gardens, and rural orchards.

It may here be remarked that, as the population increases, the stores, hotels, and boarding houses, and the mansions of those most engaged in business, nearly monopolize the lower parts of the city, while the number of private residences is annually augmenting in the northern sections. Thus many of the spacious edifices in Broadway, once occupied by the most wealthy and respectable families, appear, one after the other, in the new character of public houses, while the most magnificent mansions are continually arising even to the surprise of our own citizens in the upper parts of the town. Of these few perhaps are more beautiful than those in Le Roy Place.

The two principal streets which, almost parallel to the river, divide the city into eastern and western sections, are Broadway (formerly *Breed-weg* and the *Here-weg* or the Lord's Way) and Chatham Street, the continuation of which is denominated the Bowery. The latter probably derives its name from Stuyvesant *Bouwery* or *Farm*. From these a great number of avenues lead to different parts of the island. The Third Avenue, and probably the greatest thoroughfare, was ordered to be opened in eighteen hundred and eleven. A fine ride along this road, and one of its eastern branches, conducts the traveller to the Shot Tower, represented in our last engraving. It is about four miles and a quarter from the city, and rises to the height of one hundred and fifty feet in one of the pleasantest spots of the island. It was erected a few years ago by Mr. George Youle, and is the only structure of the kind near New York. The hours of work are from nine till eleven, during which time three tons of shot are made. The process by which it is manufactured is simple and easy. The molten metal is poured through a seive, from the furnaces situated at and near the summit, and thence falls into a reservoir of water at the bottom. In the descent it is hardened without injury to its rotundity. The largest size from the highest seive is received into a reservoir or well twenty five feet below the surface of the earth. We are unable to furnish a more detailed descrip-

tion of the interior in consequence of a somewhat peremptory negative from one of the superintendents to an application for admission.

The exterior, its tall and peculiar form rising high in the air, contrasts finely with the neighboring seats, some half buried under masses of luxuriant foliage. The nearest opposite shore is a part of Blackwell's Island, on which the spacious Penitentiary has lately been constructed. Along this narrow channel of the East River pass in numbers the sloops and steamboats which ply between the city and the various ports on Long Island Sound. In the summer evening their white sails may be frequently seen gliding through the pale moonlight—the heavy steamboats plough steadily onward, often crowded with hundreds of passengers, while from the decks are heard the notes of the bugle or bursts of martial music, till the long stream of fiery smoke which marks their progress at length disappears.

The shores of the river are here beautifully varied and picturesque. In one place the water laves the edge of green meadows, in another it breaks against fragments of rocks. Sometimes a verdant hill rises abruptly to the cultivated gardens and splendid buildings which decorate the banks, and sometimes a road winds down to the shore and leads to rural abodes fitted up for the entertainment of the throngs who escape for a few hours from the town to enjoy the breath of the fields, the woods, and the river. In the distance the Navy Yard may be perceived and the eastern part of the city. From this tranquil scene, in the stillness of the summer morning, the thousand various sounds of the inhabitants mingled together in a low murmur, may be heard like the roaring of the distant sea as its waves break on the beach. The garden and hotel adjoining the tower are at present kept by Mr. Hilton, from whose grounds the view was taken. In this cool, pleasant, and shadowy retreat, surrounded by a profusion of shrubbery and flowers, with birds singing in the trees, and the waters breaking in ripples upon the shore, the citizen is pleased to linger in the refreshing breezes of the summer afternoon, or in the cool shadow of the early day, and here

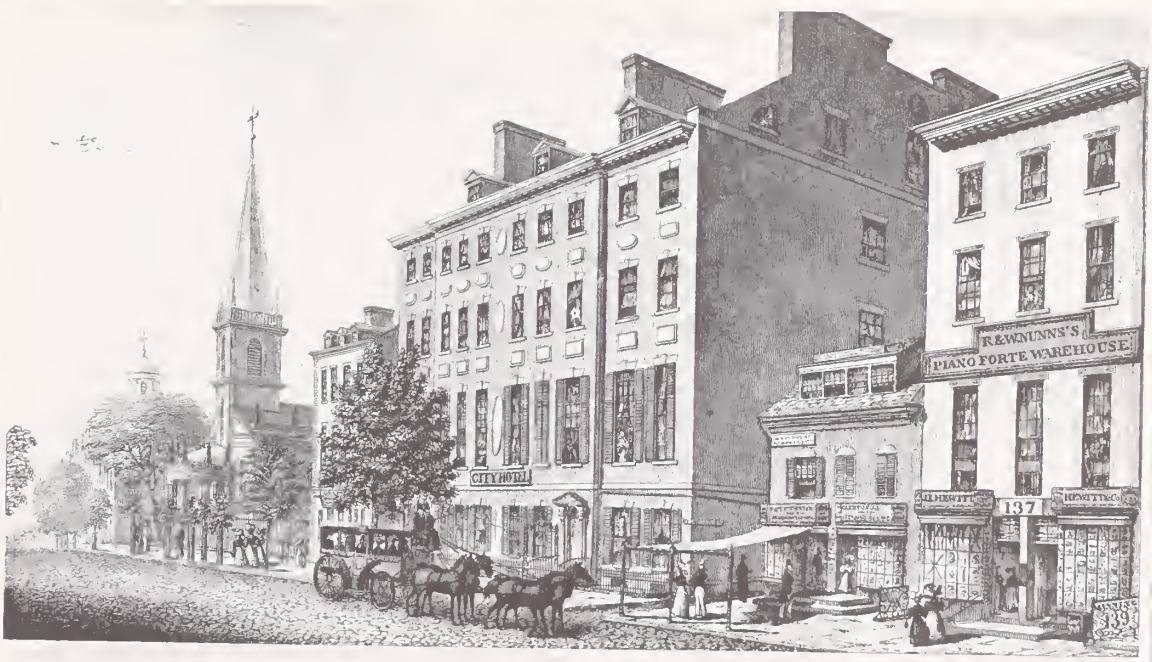
> "In the sweet solitude of this calm place,
> This intricate wild wilderness of trees,
> And flowers, and undergrowth of odorous plants,"

we leave the reader to his thoughts till the next chapter.

Drawn & Etched on Steel by J. Dick

ELYSIAN FIELDS HOBOKEN

N. York in the distance



Drawn & Engraved on Steel by J. Dick

CITY HOTEL, BROADWAY & GRACE STREETS.

Broadway.

Printed by J. H. Wade

New York Published Nov.r 1831 by Peabody & Co. London O. Rich No. 12 Red Lion Square.

Pl. 1

Drawn by A. Dick

Engraved by H. Fossette

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Manhattanville.

Pl. 2

[illegible]

[illegible] Archer

MERCHANTS' ROOM, EXCHANGE.

Wall Street

[illegible]

New York Published Novr 1852 by Peabody & Co London [illegible]

CHAPTER III.

"Sunrise was slanting on the city gates
Rosy and beautiful, and from the hills
The early risen poor were coming in
Duly and cheerfully to their toil, and up
Rose the sharp hammer's clink, and the far hum
Of moving wheels and multitudes astir,
And all that in a city murmur dwells."

WILLIS.

There are fine views in the vicinity of New York, though few of them are on the Island. Strangers naturally inquire respecting the suburbs, and they who have admired the scenery in the neighbourhood of Boston, are disappointed as they ride through the outskirts of this city, and too frequently form an erroneous conclusion; forgetting that being so nearly surrounded by water, the best positions for a prospect must be on the adjacent shores. From Brooklyn Heights, for example, the scene is striking. The waters of the Sound, here compressed within the narrow channel of the East River, rush through in a rapid and powerful current, till they broaden into the immense Bay that, in beauty and singular adaptatation to the wishes of a commercial people, has only one superior in the world. The city, like Venice, rising directly from the wave, the infinite variety of vessels that crowd the harbour, the islands scattered around, the angle of the town, with the innumerable sights and sounds incidental to such a multitude engaged in active occupation, the indented banks of Long Island, crowned with picturesque mills and showy seats, some of them half hidden by the foliage, the town of Brooklyn on the right, and Staten Island, in the distance, swelling up against the sky—all these agreeable objects, so disposed before him, awaken both interest and admiration in the beholder. The shores of York Island, washed by the East River, present also many spots which nature and art have combined to decorate with an imposing beauty; and, in New Jersey, opposite the western section of the city, are to be found scenes which are the boast and pleasure of the citizens. A portion of this shore is represented in the ninth engraving. The most varied and lovely scenery tempts the feet of the stranger for several miles along the waves of the Hudson, till he wanders from Hoboken Ferry to Weehawken, by a road of such singular and romantic beauty, as to merit more than a casual notice. From the foot of Barclay and Canal Streets, in the city, Steam-boats ply at brief

intervals, and are fifteen minutes in crossing. Hoboken derives its name from one of the old aristocratic families of Antwerp. A hotel, kept by Mr. Van Antwerp, is located on the summit of a high sloping bank, amid a pleasant grove, and within a few hundred yards of the water. In summer, the spacious lawn before the mansion is thronged with hundreds who, in this attractive and refreshing retreat, enjoy the hours of the afternoon. The portly citizen who has gone dripping over the heated pavements in the morning, here lounges upon a commodious seat, sips his favourite beverage, and grows gradually cool with the declining day. Groupes of lively children are forming and breaking away around you, the honest tradesman sits and breathes, the lawyer loses the chance of a fee to escape to this breezy eminence, the orator leaves his discourse unfinished to muse on an appropriate conclusion here, and the editor flings down his pen in a passion, answers his devil's remonstrances with uncivil ejaculations, and hastens hither, where he puffs out cigar smoke and settles paragraphs, inhales milk punch and ideas in the same delicious moment. Indeed there is a period during the most sultry season, when all classes may find a happy representative here; when the belle and the beau, the rich and the poor, the merry and the discontented, meet upon a common level of enjoyment, and the actor who last night stalked before you as Richard or Othello, has left his coat and his conscience in the theatre, and lounges here in a state of luxurious inanimation. If you are indolent, you will sit quietly, satisfied to gaze abroad upon the splendid spectacle which lies stretched before you; but we recommend you, after having watched, for a few moments, the rapid railroad car, as it sweeps by in its circular flight with the easy velocity of a bird, to ramble onward along the deeply shaded promenade that winds gracefully in among the over spreading foliage, and leads by the river towards the Elysian fields and Weehawk. The name of the former is appropriately bestowed upon a tract of charming meadow, a little more than a mile from the ferry, and on your road as you pass to the bold promontory of Weehawk. This is an Indian name for a spot celebrated for its natural beauty, and rendered classical by the lines of Mr. Halleck, which are, or ought to be, familiar to all our readers. Elysium was formerly known by the more homely appellation of Turtle Grove; not from the turtle doves whose low music charmed its shades, but from the fare of the substantial citizens, who, in former times, selected this pleasant and retired site for the scene of their turtle soup dinners, and doubtless availed themselves of the opportunity to practice all kinds of good humoured nonsense without alarming the city.

The approach to the Elysian fields, along the water side, is romantic and beautiful. Familiarity blunts our perceptions of physical as well as moral nature; yet, the stranger dwells with delight upon the softness, the brightness and variety of this scene, the improvements of which, lately effected by colonel Stevens, are laid out with great taste. We come to it through a narrow, circuitous path, overarched with oak branches, which completely shut out the view, except one or two magnificent glimpses of the city, bay, and narrows. As you draw near the pavilion, recently erected, of which we present an engraving, the prospect gradually opens into a broad meadow, displaying lofty trees at wide distances from each other, and, at length, spreads away into a superb green lawn, whose sudden extent is relieved by gentle undulations, like the slow, silent swells of the ocean in its calmest moments. The land which has hitherto been elevated so that the dash of the water floated up to you from below, now descends to a level with the river, and the waves roll in and break with their silver beauty at your feet. The broad city is distinctly seen in the distance—the Hudson, which here ends its pilgrimage, expands into an apparent lake, which leads the eye on the south to those immense gates through which it pours its tribute floods into the Atlantic, and on the north, to the jutting point of Weehawk, a beautiful fragment clothed with deep rich verdure, thus left perchance in long past ages, broken by the river, as it forced a passage through the mountains. Immediately around you are shady ravines, luxuriant forests, and cultivated fields; and, as the level beams of the setting sun stream through the branches and mark the ground with long grotesque shadows, you realize the spirited lines of the poet:

" The landscape to the view
Its vistas opens, and its alleys green.
Snatched through the verdant maze, the hurried eye
Distracted wanders; now the bowery walk
Of covert close, where scarce a speck of day
Falls on the lengthened gloom, protracted sweeps:
Now meets the bending sky: the river now
Dimpling along, the breezy-ruffled lake,
The forest darkening round, the glittering spire,
The etherial mountain and the distant main.
Along these blushing borders bright with dew,
And in yon mingled wilderness of flowers,
Fair-handed Spring embosoms every grace."

A brief but somewhat laborious walk from this little Eden conducts you to the summit of Weehawk hill. At its base are a ferry house and tavern. A boat may be here procured for the duelling ground, about one hundred rods north, under the steep bank of the river. This place cannot be easily approached except by water. You will experience a mournful satisfaction in treading on ground so fraught with melancholy associations, and wonder that murder, led by fashion, should select a spot of such peaceful beauty for its cruel and bloody sacrifice. At this point commences the perpendicular ridge known by the name of the Palisade rocks. They form the western bank of the river for about twenty miles to the north, and reach an elevation of nearly two hundred feet. The summit of this precipice commands another view embracing Long Island sound, the island of Manhattan or York, the county of Westchester and the highlands, on the north. A few miles to the west, the bold eminences, which rise from the shores of the Hudson, subside into a tract of richly variegated country, presenting a gentle declivity; and in the valley beneath, the Hackensac river threads its course along the lowlands. Travellers passing between the city and the falls of the Passaic, in New Jersey, would find themselves amply compensated for the slight additional trouble of taking this view in their route. It was these scenes which the good Sir Hendrick Hudson termed "the pleasantest land for cultivating that men need tread upon."

The City Hotel, in the next Plate, is one of the oldest and most extensive public houses in the city. It fronts on Broadway, between Cedar and Thames Streets, occupying an entire square, and is calculated for the accommodation of about one hundred and sixty persons. Besides the public department there is one appropriated to the use of private families and parties, with a separate entrance, also in Broadway. In addition to the number of small parlours and lodging rooms, it contains one of the most spacious and elegant apartments in the United States, chiefly used for concerts and balls. For the last fourteen years this establishment has been under the direction of Mr. Chester Jennings. No situation in the city offers more convenience for strangers desirous of residing near the principal scenes of business, fashion and pleasure. In its vicinity are the Battery, Wall Street with nearly all the banks, the Post Office and the Exchange, the chief book stores and libraries, and the Park Theatre. It is the property of Mr. John Jacob Astor, who bought it in April, 1828, for one hundred and twenty-one thousand dollars. The annual rent is nine thousand dollars.

In the distance are discerned Trinity and Grace Churches. The warehouse of R. & W. Nunns, well known as makers of fine pianos, is also seen in the plate. About two hundred and fifty instruments are annually manufactured by these superior artizans. Connected with their rooms is the store of Mr. Hewett, where may be obtained an extensive assortment of music and musical instruments.

The Asylum for the insane, at Manhattanville, about seven miles from the city, was commenced on the seventh of May, eighteen hundred and eighteen. It is a branch of the New York Hospital, under the government of the same managers, and is endowed with funds amounting to ten thousand dollars per annum, for forty-four years: an appropriation, granted by the legislature of the state in eighteen hundred and sixteen.

The site of this fine building is an elevation of one hundred and fifty feet above the Hudson river. It may be information to some of our young readers, that there is a slight variation in the level of the Hudson and East rivers. This has been tested by experiments made at the foot of Roosevelt and Canal Streets, at several times of tides. The difference was ascertained to be from a quarter of an inch to one and two inches, by slight gradations, and at one moment eight inches. The Asylum and grounds occupy seventy-seven acres, purchased at five hundred dollars each. It was completed in the course of two years, at the entire cost of two hundred thousand dollars. The edifice is composed of red sand stone, from New Jersey. It is three stories high, besides the basement, two hundred and eleven feet in length, and sixty feet deep. The interior is divided into three parts. One is allotted to males, another to females, and the central occupied by the superintendant, his family, the physician, and governors. Through each story extends a hall leading, on either side, into apartments, where the unhappy tenants are accommodated. None are admitted gratuitously, but a limited number may be sent from each senate district, at two dollars per week, to be paid by contributions from their friends or the overseers of the poor. Individuals in affluent circumstances receive luxuries, consistent with their health, and are boarded at the rate of ten dollars per week. The whole building is warmed safely and comfortably by means of flues from below. The number of patients is limited to two hundred. The visiting committee report that the method of medical and moral treatment here pursued, has more than realized their sanguine anticipations. The unfortunate victims are led on gently through

a course of agricultural and mechanical occupations. Books are given to such as will read; others are persuaded to draw, or amuse themselves with easy exercise in the sunshiny and pleasant gardens. For the use of such as cannot be safely trusted with more freedom, there are two enclosures surrrounded by high walls, on the north side of the edifice, distinct from the other grounds, and accessible only by subterranean passages in the rear. Every thing is resorted to which can tend to break in upon the gloomy monotony of madness, and touch, in the dark disturbed mind, the springs of light and happy associations. The most affectionate and careful attention is required to exclude from the imagination any idea of their real situation. All appearance therefore of a prison is concealed. The cast-iron windows resemble those of ordinary dwelling houses. Every object is preserved in a state of perfect cleanliness and order. The prospect presents beautifully embellished roads and shrubbery, meadows of deep green in which deer and other animals are quietly browsing, and, so successfully have the benevolent promoters and guardians of this noble institution imitated the cheerfulness and comfort of a private palace, that one of the prisoners, whom the thinking inhabitant of the rough outward world will almost hesitate to term wretched, wanders about the enclosed lawns, with an air of lordly importance, issues commands of no equivocal nature to such strangers as meddle with the fruit or flowers, and, basking here in the summer sunshine, sees his life glide peacefully on in a pleasant and perpetual enchantment. The visiter will however sometimes shudder with a cold feeling of horror, to hear the still tranquillity of so lovely a spot broken by some startling and positive voice, a hoarse laugh, an agonizing shriek or a deep groan, mingled with the clank of chains, from the inmates of those separate buildings allotted to maniacs of the most desperate cast. Application for admission to the patients must be applied for at the Hospital in Broadway, as, without an order, strangers are not shown through the whole interior. The building was planned by Thomas C. Taylor, Esq. one of the directors. The summit commands one of the most delightful views in the island, embracing an horizon of forty miles north and south and twenty east, including the pallisadoes on the west bank of the Hudson, rising perpendicularly four hundred feet. We recommend every stranger to visit this eminence and enjoy at a single glance a rich and glowing picture of natural beauty. Choose a summer afternoon or morning, when the level beams give a depth of light and shadow. You will never be weary of admiring the gleamings of the rivers—the luxuriant profusion of foliage and verdant fields—the blue highlands near West-Point—the heights of Harlæm and Fort Washington, Staten

Island and Long Island—the white seats peeping from their leafy coverings, and the bay crowded with vessels of every description, and betraying its proximity to the great city whose bristling spires are seen in the distance. Our description affords but a faint idea of the reality to those who have neglected to indulge themselves with a view from this fine elevation; but many a young and pitying bosom will find all the picturesque splendours of the prospect, and the graceful embellishments of the scenery immediately around, unable to drive away the images of the pale faces, which here and there look up from their lonely meditations—the white hand of some maniac beckoning from the window—the vacant smile—the glare of rancorous hate—and that hideous sound of chains. Feelings of pleasure, excited even by the unusual beauty of nature, are rebuked by the thought that you are in the midst of a crowd of your fellow beings, suffering under so awful and unaccountable a visitation of Providence.

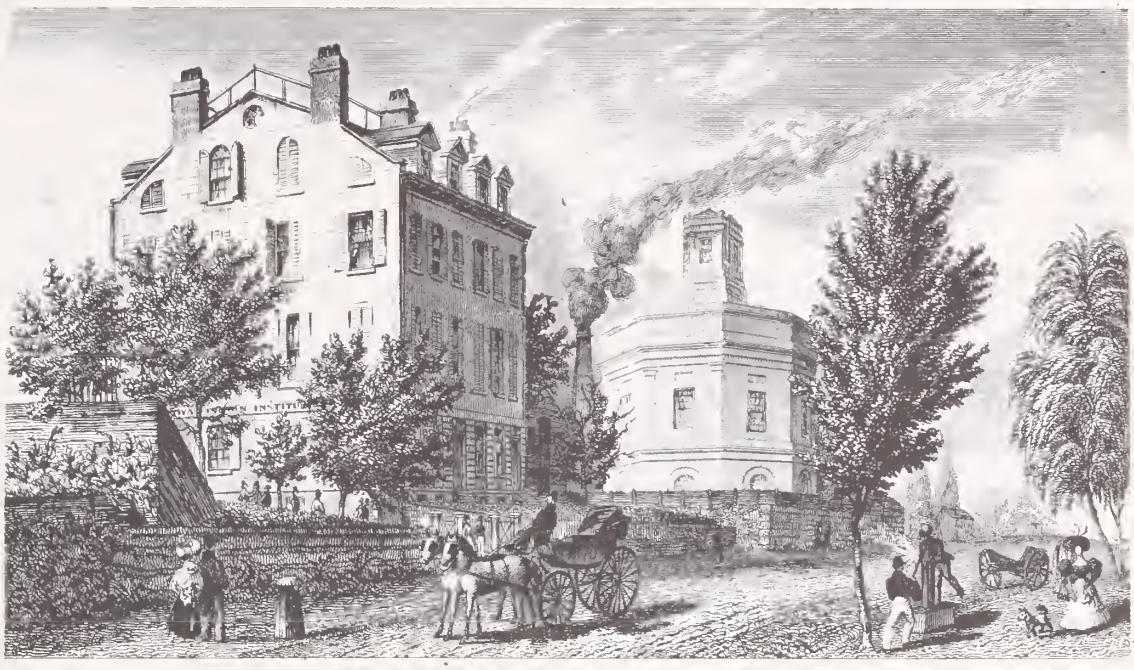
In the year seventeen hundred and fifty-two, an Exchange was built on the lower end of Wall Street, on the west side, at or near the intersection of Pearl Street. The expenses were principally defrayed by the private subscription of John Watts and other merchants. The Corporation granted one hundred pounds towards the same. In April, seventeen hundred and eighty-four, this edifice was turned into a market place, and in March, seventeen hundred and ninety-nine, it was ordered to be taken down. The merchants were accustomed to congregate in a large room in the Tontine Coffee House, also in Wall Street, until eighteen hundred and twenty-seven. This Tontine Coffee House was also erected by merchants. It was commenced in seventeen hundred and ninety-two, upon a spot formerly occupied by a Coffee House, opened by a Mr. Smith during the revolutionary war, and much frequented by the British Officers.

The present building was commenced in April, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, and completed in May, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven. The front on Wall Street is one hundred and fourteen feet, and the depth running through to Garden, one hundred and fifty. The main body of the building is two stories high, exclusive of the basement and an attic story on Wall Street. Two thirds of the south east portion of the basement story is occupied with the Post Office. The front consists of pure white marble, from Westchester county, eighteen miles north east from the city. The principal entrance from Wall Street is by a flight of nine marble steps. The portico of the building is ornamented with four Ionic columns, each composed of a single block of marble and weighing

eighteen tons. They are ornamented with an entablature, on which rests the attic story and the cupola. The colonade extending across the front of the vestibule is copied from the temple of Illyssus. A winding flight of steps leads to the saloons of the second and attic stories. Rising from the floor of the first are two windows, that open into and command a view of the area below, which forms the subject of our last engraving. From the attic story, a grated door leads to the telegraphic room in the cupola, where signals are made and returned from the telegraph at the Narrows, seven miles and a half distant south west. The height of the cupola above the attic story is sixty feet, and sixty feet above the pavement below.

The dome commands an extensive prospect of the city, harbour, the Hudson and East rivers, and the surrounding country to a distance of about twenty miles north and west. This position, as well as the cupola of the City Hall and several steeples, affords a fine panoramic view of the city. The room displayed in the engraving, is in the centre of the building, and is eighty-five feet long, fifty-five wide and forty-five high. The architect, Mr. M. E. Thompson, has been greatly praised for his taste and skill in constructing it. The stock is owned in twenty-three hundred shares of one hundred dollars each.

The spacious apartment in the plate, from the hours of one to three P. M. presents an interesting sight to the stranger. Its ample floor is thronged with a crowd, whose low tones are blended into a subdued hum like the murmur of bees. Upon this spot often originate important commercial enterprizes, whose results are felt in distant parts of the nation and indeed the world. Here foreigners and natives meet to make bargains and exchange news, and fortunes are built up and dissipated in a moment.



WASHINGTON INSTITUTE AND CITY RESERVOIR.

HUDSON RIVER FROM HOBOKEN.

New York Published March 1832 by Peabody & Co London [illegible] Rich No 12 Red Lion Square

Wm Phelp Pr.

Drawn & Engraved by H Folsette.

COFFEE-HOUSE SLIP.

(Foot of Wall Street)

Drawn & Engraved by H.Folsette.

PARK THEATRE-PARK ROW.

(Tammany Hall in the distance)

New York. Published March 1832. by Peabody & Co. London. G.Rich No.12 Red.ion Square.

CHAPTER IV.

"Erewhile, where yon gay spires their brightness rear,
Trees waved, and the brown hunter's shouts were loud
Amid the forest; and the bounding deer
Fled at the glancing plume, and the gaunt wolf yelled near.

And where his willing waves yon bright blue bay
Sends up, to kiss his decorated brim,
And cradles, in his soft embrace, the gay
Young group of grassy islands born of him,
And, crowding nigh, or in the distance dim,
Lifts the white throng of sails, that bear or bring
The commerce of the world—with tawny limb,
And belt and beads in sunlight glistening,
The savage urged his skiff like wild bird on the wing.

BRYANT

FREE SCHOOLS were first established in this city in 1797. The "New York Free School" was incorporated in 1805. The New York High School was formed in 1822, at the suggestion of Mr. John Griscom, one of the most respected of our fellow citizens. The Edinburgh High School was adopted as the model of imitation, and another institution of the same kind was organized in 1825, for female pupils. Sabbath schools are numerous, and the number of minor private schools has been estimated at four or five hundred. For young ladies, several establishments of the first rank exist, greatly to the credit of those who founded and those who conduct them, and extremely useful in promoting the general character of the city. Of these, and the vast variety of benevolent, literary, and scientific institutions, we shall have occasion to speak hereafter. At present, we must confine ourselves to a brief description of the two edifices represented in the first plate of this number. The largest furnishes an accurate idea of the Washington Institute, an institution for the instruction of young gentlemen. It was established eight or ten years ago by Mr. George Hall, who has given the public the most ample evidences of his great capabilities for superintending it, and from him it passed into the hands of the Rev. Joseph D. Wickham, an accomplished scholar and estima-

ble man, who with the valuable assistance of Mr. John Lutz, Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, at present conducts it with great ability and success. We trust it may not be deemed inappropriate here, to offer a few remarks on education, naturally elicited by the present subject. To the observations which we are about to advance, it is almost needless to premise there were several exceptions. Before the Washington Institute was elevated by Mr. Hall to the rank which it now holds, there had been almost uniformly throughout the academies of our country, two glaring evils. Learning was either above or below that mediocrity most befitting the mass of a plain and republican people. The pupil was obliged either to enter a college and devote the most precious years of his youth in acquiring certain scholastic attainments, which, however ornamental or necessary to the learned professions, are not the most requisite for the majority of our young men: or, he was compelled to descend to one of the many academies conducted by irresponsible and incompetent persons, where, in endeavouring to perfect himself in the ordinary branches, he was too often exposed to the example of vulgar men, who taught school merely as adventurers, and allured parents to patronize them by *cheap* terms. We suspect there have been more charletans among school masters, than almost any other profession, and for this the public have in a great measure to blame themselves. Parents and guardians have been too much accustomed to send their children to the care of men who were neither gentlemen nor scholars, and whom they were ashamed to invite to their own tables. The business of instruction had, by the strangest caprice and injustice, wanted the colour of respectability and the prospect of pecuniary gain, requisite to elevate it to its natural station among the rest, and had hence fallen into the hands of a low order of society; and he who felt a repugnance to commit his son to their charge, was compelled to adopt an alternative almost equally repulsive, and place him under the control of gentlemen who led him through the classics, and accomplished him in many kinds of knowledge, which in after life was neglected and forgotten, and perhaps served to give him a distaste for the business to which circumstances called him, being thus rather an obstacle than an auxiliary. The object of the Washington Institute is to afford the desired medium, and while boys destined to the professions can there be fitted for college, to the sons of merchants and tradesmen it offers great inducements—a thorough education in the English branches—the Spanish, French, German, and Italian, and whatever in the lighter departments can be required. This experiment has been well repaid by the steady approbation and support of the wealthiest

and most respectable families of the city and of various parts of the United States. A large number of young men also from the West Indies, Mexico, Guatamala, Columbia, and other divisions of Spanish America, have here received their education. It is an additional consideration of paramount importance, that in this healthy and beautiful spot, the morals and manners of the pupils are regarded by the numerous assistant instructors employed, with a never sleeping care. The most scrupulous assiduity has always been exerted respecting the cleanliness, neatness, and domestic comforts of the extensive family. A visit to this establishment would not fail to interest every stranger of intelligence. It is situated on a charming elevation in Thirteenth Street, combining the many advantages of a city vicinity with the pure air and lovely prospect of the country. The Hudson may be seen from the spacious piazza in the rear, which also commands a beautiful view of the East river. On the west and in the perspective, the spectator discovers the building erected by the corporation in the course of their plan for supplying the town with water to be used in the extinguishment of fires. An immense reservoir has been dug to a great depth, through solid rock, and their work has already been so far crowned with success, as to insure a supply of water through pipes already laid along a number of the principal streets.

The fourteenth engraving shews a view of the Hudson river from the shore of New Jersey. This beautiful sheet of water is often crowded with sails of every description, from the light open pleasure boat skimming over its bosom, to the stately packet ship or the magnificent seventy four. In the distance on the right, you may discern a group of buildings, near which is the Chemical Factory. This establishment is the property of the New York Chemical Bank, which has invested in it one hundred thousand dollars, one fifth of its capital stock. It is situated three miles from the city, and annually manufactures to the amount of about fifty thousand dollars, in oil of vitriol, muriatic acid, spirits nitre fortis, aqua fortis tin, aqua fortis duplex, bleaching powders, alum, &c.

The fifteenth plate offers to our readers a view of one of the slips on the eastern side of the town, where is seen a portion of the extensive shipping which distinguishes this above every other American city, and ranks it near the most important emporiums of Europe. The slip in the picture derives its name from the Tontine Coffee House, a large adjoining building in Wall Street, erected in 1792. and presents nothing of peculiar interest more than what a stranger would

feel, in beholding a scene so crowded with a variety of noble vessels and enlivened with the signs of business. It however calls up astonishment at the extraordinary if not unparalelled rapidity with which our metropolis has grown up in wealth and commerce. In judging of the past too, we are naturally impelled to look forward, and conjecture has scarcely any limits respecting the future greatness of this city, when we consider its previous increase and the combined advantages of its situation. In 1650, the trade of this port was confined to *fur;* and even in 1683, our ancestors numbered three barques, three brigantines, twenty-six sloops, and forty-eight open boats. Now the spectator, at many times when the wind is fair, may, without moving from one spot, count more sloops than the whole of the foregoing, bending before the breeze on their passage up the Hudson. A volume of statistics, published several years ago, estimates the value of the merchandize annually shipped and unshipped in this port, at one hundred millions of dollars, the average number of merchant vessels in port at six hundred, besides fifty steamboats. It would be difficult to conjecture what influence can arrest the extension of New York city. It is allowed to display superior commercial advantages over every other on this continent. It is the grand reservoir into which capital flows from all quarters, and the nature of its magnificent harbour leaves nothing to be desired by its enterprising inhabitants. Every thing tends to render it the great centre of business, and the wanderer from other cities of the United States immediately feels on his entrance into New York, that he is in a place where powerful interests are forever conflicting, and large enterprises forever springing up, and wherein are to be found most of the secret springs, which, extending their influence far and wide, control the operations of the most remote parts of the Union. The sway which it thus exercises, it owes to commerce. An intelligent writer on the same subject, observes this distinction: "It is apparent," he says, "that it (New York) had its origin in commercial interests, and that the causes to which its origin is to be traced. have little analogy with those to which the other settlements of the United States owe their existence. The first settlers of New England, Pennsylvania, and the Southern States, were, with few exceptions, refugees from religious and political persecution, and their abodes in the wilderness were selected, not as permanent settlements, but as asylums to screen them from the oppression which had expelled them from their homes. These settlements may therefore be considered as consecrated by the presence of a great moral principle. The first settlement of New York was without the benefit of any moral impulse of this nature: her shores were occupied by a commercial company, with a view to

trade; and every subsequent addition to her wealth and industry is to be traced to the operation of the same cause." Whoever mingles in the society of New York, will often feel the force of this observation. Hoadley & Phelps, dealers in Drugs, Paints, &c., Phœnix Buildings, on the right of the view, do an extensive business, principally with the cities and towns in our country, particularly in the south and west.

One of the homeliest buildings in the city of any note, as to its exterior, is the Park Theatre—the large plain edifice visible in the sixteenth plate. We possess but slender materials for describing accurately the earliest efforts of our ancestors at Theatrical performances, which were commenced nearly a century ago in a large Store near the Old Slip, on a place called Cruger's Wharf, at about the same period, by the way, the first regular weekly was published in New York, called the "Weekly Gazette." There are now about thirty weekly papers. The accounts before us do not represent the persons engaged in the undertaking to have been either very serious or successful, but a mere party of frolicksome young men, rather desirous of gratifying their own love of mirth and frivolity, than of founding any permanent and well regulated dramatic establishment.

About the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty, a stone Theatre was built in Nassau Street, in the rear of the Dutch Church, near Maiden Lane. It is said to have been quite well conducted by a Mr. Hallam, who principally by the aid of players from the Provincial Theatres of Great Britain, performed many of the best English plays until the Manager, either from want of encouragement, or allured by more lucrative prospects elsewhere, withdrew his Company and the building was pulled down.

In 1770 a new effort was made by a Mr. Miller, in a miserable wooden house in Beekman Street, a few doors below Nassau Street. This is described as inferior to the other. The scenery was of paper, and the wardrobe deficient both in quality and extent. This unfortunate structure was so far from being supported that the public, not satisfied with its passing to its fate in the ordinary course of things, assembled one day under the influence of some political excitement and tore it to pieces.

During the Revolutionary war, and while the city was in possession of the

English, the drama was once more resorted to as a source of amusement. A building was erected in John Street, and plays were represented by the British officers. Among the pieces here performed, were several of a satirical character from the pen of Burgoyne. In 1783, after the British had evacuated the city, the John Street Theatre fell into the hands of a regular Company, and was for a time quite successful. A circumstance is said to have occurred at this period, by which (subsequent writers have informed us,) we may perceive at a glance what singular revolutions take place in the characters of communities as well as individuals. The recent accounts state, that the winter of 1785 was unusually severe, and caused extreme suffering among the poor. The manager of the Theatrical Corps offered for their assistance the proceeds of a night, amounting to one hundred pounds. This was declined by the Common Council on the ground, that Theatrical exhibitions had an immoral tendency. This view of the affair, however, is not altogether correct, although we acknowledge with regret, which every one interested in the character of his country must feel, that our past history is darkened by too many instances of absurd bigotry; yet in the present instance we are happy in finding a version of the affair less calculated to interfere with our respect for our forefathers. A donation not of one hundred, but of forty pounds was offered to the Corporation for the use of the poor, but was declined by the Common Council, and on the ground that they disapproved of the "Establishment of a Play-House, *without having been licensed*, as unprecedented and offensive; and while a great part of the city was lying in ruins, and the citizens still suffering under distress, there is a loud call to industry and economy, and it would be unjustifiable in them to countenance expensive and enticing amusements. That among these, a Play-House, however regulated, was to be numbered, while if under no restraint, it may prove a fruitful source of dissipation, criminality, and vice." Indeed a mere act of bigotry so wanton and stupid as this little circumstance has been misrepresented to the present generation, could scarcely have occurred at the time when such men as Washington, La Fayette, John Jay, Robert R. Livingston, Samuel Ogden, and Richard Varick, were the leading men of the community, and held the control over the general opinions as well as the political interests of men. The building was destroyed by fire in 1799.

The Park Theatre, the subject of our present consideration was commenced in 1795, during the alarming prevalence of the yellow fever in the city. It

was completed in 1798, at which time a petition from the Proprietors for leave to erect a portico over the side walk, was rejected by a Common Council, apparently as unwilling to grant as to receive favors from the Dramatic Corps. The cost of the building was one hundred and seventy-nine thousand dollars, but was soon after purchased at auction for fifty thousand dollars, by its present owners Messrs. Astor and Beekman. It was opened for public performances in 1798, under the management of the celebrated Hodgkinson, formerly of the John Street Theatre. This gentleman must have been gifted with great powers as an actor, from the strong and universal praise bestowed upon him by those familiar with his personations; since his death the Theatre has passed under the direction of Dunlap, Cooper, Price, and its present manager, Simpson. In May, 1820, late one night after the performance of the evening, the building was discovered to be on fire. We are not aware that the original cause of the accident is known. The interior was wholly consumed, but the walls which are of immense thickness were left standing; their height also prevented the conflagration, and a heavy shower came very opportunely to the assistance of the firemen in the preservation of the surrounding buildings, which with a single exception were uninjured. Fortunately this calamity was attended by no loss of lives. No one who witnessed the destruction of the Park Theatre can ever forget the grandeur and sublimity of the spectacle. The sky was completely obscured with clouds, and shrouded the scene in impenetrable gloom, which greatly heightened the intense splendour of the fire-light. The flames, ascending to the height of several hundred feet, cast a glare of lurid radiance over a circle of many miles, and illuminated the city, especially in the immediate vicinity, with vivid brilliancy and beauty. Crowds of citizens and among them many ladies and gentlemen, lured by the awful grandeur of the sight, thronged by thousands to the spot, and the dense mass of human beings which gradually swarmed around, added strongly to the picturesqueness of the scene.

Then there is a peculiar, and almost indefinable interest in witnessing the destruction of a Theatre, which broke forth in a thousand murmured exclamations from the lips of the spectators. We regarded the crashing edifice and the thickening and heaving multitude with almost equal curiosity. There was the poet with his dilated eyes already manufacturing phrases for a poem, on the conflagration of the Park Theatre; and there was the editor watching to give his country subscribers a faithful description. Some turned up their eyes

and shrugged their shoulders, and nodded their heads knowingly and muttered aloud the "judgment" which must fall at last on all haunts of worldly pleasure. To us it was the breaking up of a world of pleasant images and associations. In these gleaming sheets of fire and deep masses of billowy smoke rolling upward on the wind, we saw a host of gay and gorgeous spirits passing away. Kings and heroes, Roman and Greek, maids and mothers, Lear, Richard, Cæsar, Desdemona, Rosalind, Falstaff, all vanished like a pleasant dream. Our extremely limited space warns us back from digression; but we are certain hundreds shared our half formed shifting reveries and regrets on beholding the ruin of the edifice from which they had derived so many hours of amusement. In narrating this catastrophe, we should not forget the generosity of Mr. M. M. Noah, for whose benefit, as the author of several popular pieces, the proceeds of the evening were to have been appropriated. On account of the misfortune, he returned the amount handed over to him by the managers, although it was the receipts of a full house. It was several months after the fire before the proprietors rebuilt the edifice. The interior was much improved, but the exterior retained its unpromising aspect. It was re-opened on the evening of the first of August, 1821, with a prize address, a beautiful composition from the pen of Mr. Sprague. The length of the building is sixty feet, the height fifty-five, the depth one hundred and sixty-five. It is constructed of brick, and the front is plastered with *oil cement* in imitation of brown free stone. The roof is shingled and covered with tin, and the whole is completely fire proof. There are five doors of entrance to the boxes, two to the pit, and one to the gallery, all of which open *outward*. Many lives were lost, it is said, at the dreadful conflagration of the Richmond Theatre, from the pressure of the crowd against the doors which open inward. The ticket lobby is nine feet wide, and forty-seven and a half long. On the second floor there is a saloon or coffee room fifty feet long. The interior of the house, which presents the form of a *Lyre*, measures at its greatest width fifty-two and a half feet. The house is at present under the management of Messrs. Simpson, Barry, and Price. It will accommodate twenty-five hundred persons. The annual rent is eighteen thousand dollars.

Drawn by A.J Davis.

Engraved by J. Archer

BROAD STREET.

(Custom House in the distance)

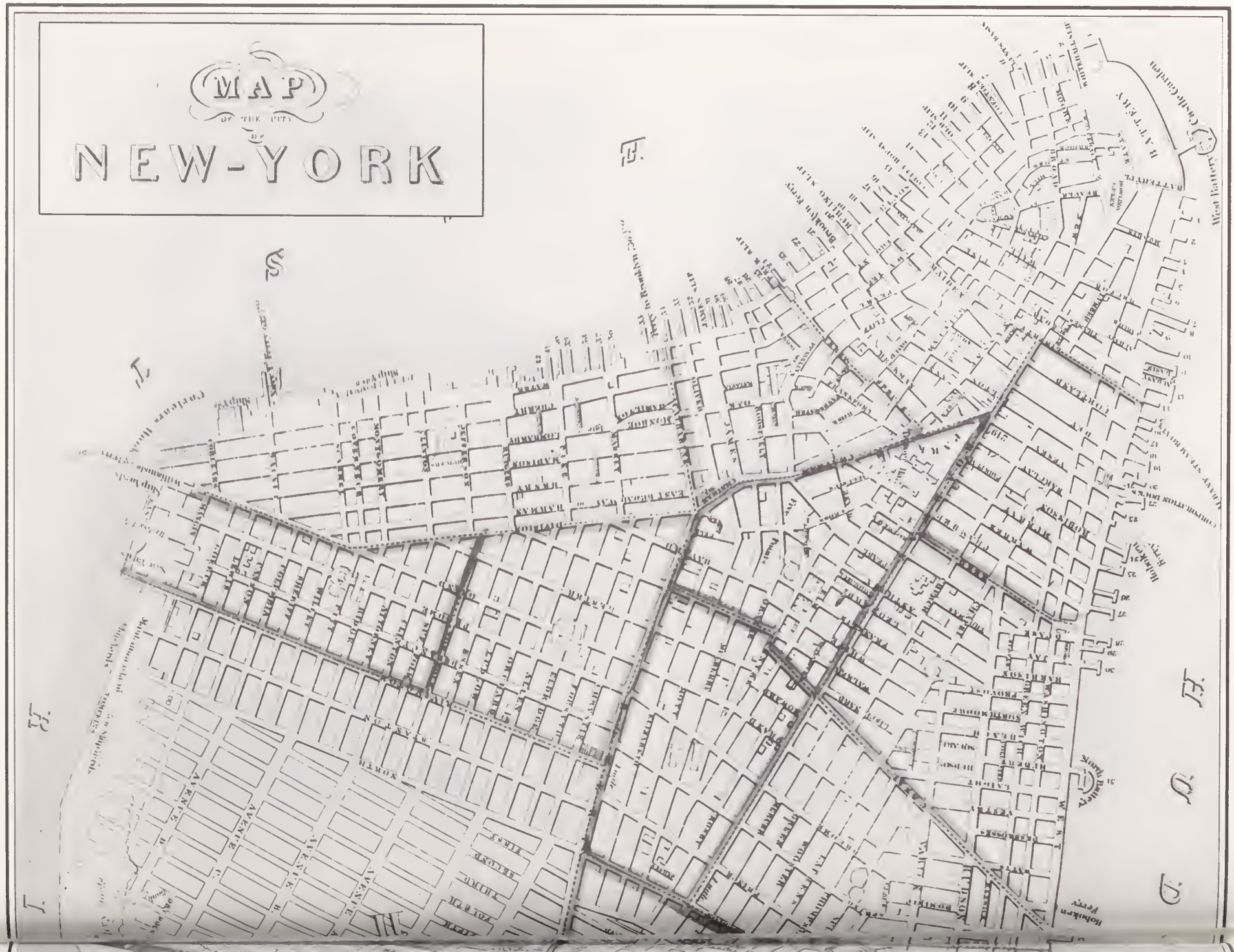
Drawn by A.Dick.

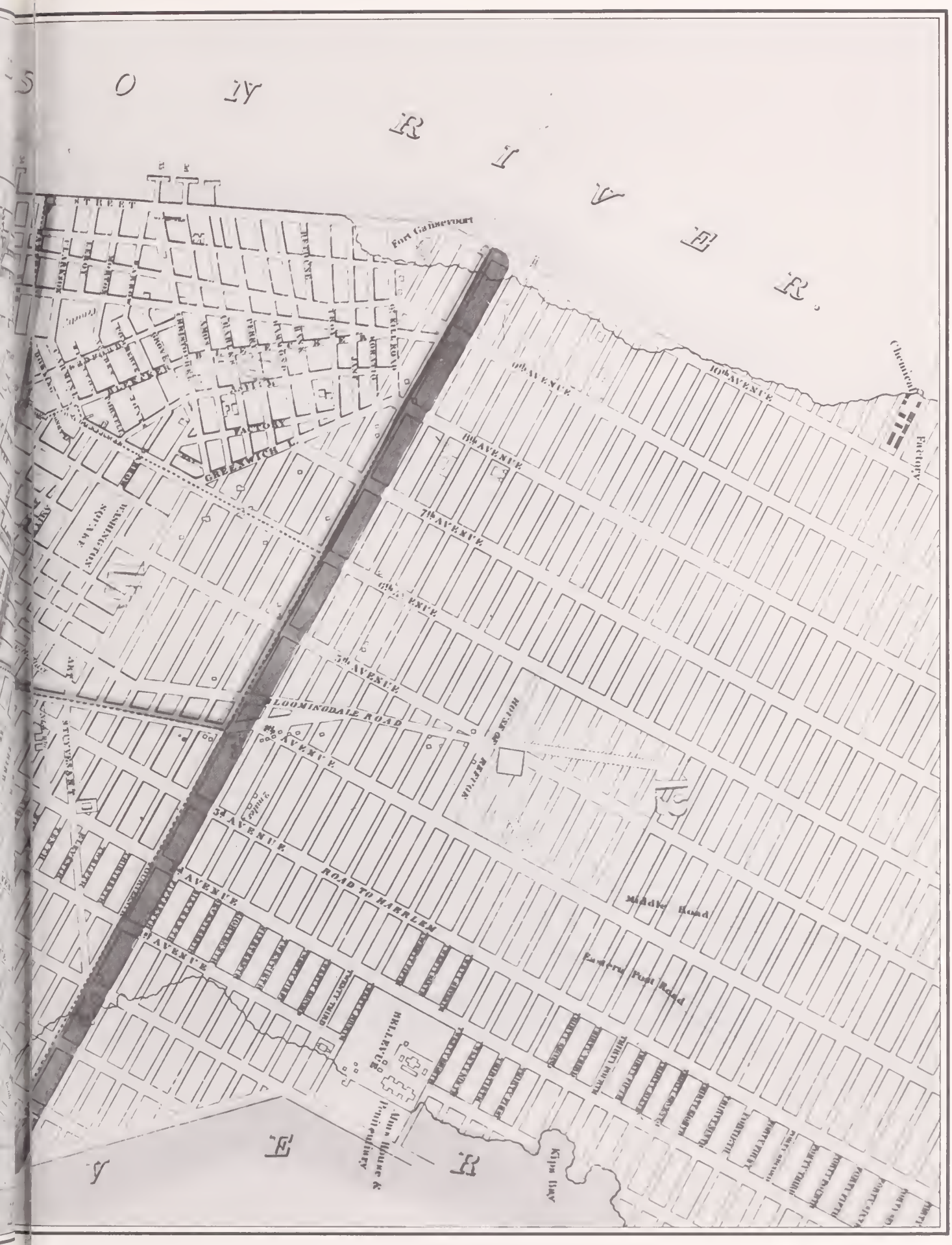
Engraved by M.Osborne

HOLT'S NEW HOTEL.

(Corner of Fulton & Water Street)

New-York. Published by Peabody & Co. London. O.Rich No.12 Red Lion Square


MAP
OF THE CITY
OF
NEW-YORK



S O N R I V E R.
Fort Gansevoort
STREET
FACTORY
GREENWICH
WASHINGTON SQUARE
10th AVENUE
9th AVENUE
8th AVENUE
7th AVENUE
6th AVENUE
5th AVENUE
LOOMINGDALE ROAD
HOUSE OF REFUGE
3d AVENUE
ROAD TO HARRLEM
Middle Road
Eastern Post Road
HELLEVUE
Kips Bay
Chemical
Factory

CHAPTER V.

"As the morning advances, the din of labour augments on every side; the streets are thronged with man and steed, and beast of burden; the universal movement produces a hum and murmur like the surges of the ocean. As the sun ascends to his meridian, the hum and bustle gradually decline; at the height of noon there is a pause; the panting city sinks into lassitude, and for several hours there is a general repose. The windows are closed; the curtains drawn; the inhabitants retired into the coolest recesses of their mansions." THE ALHAMBRA.

THE attention of the reader is solicited, in this number, to a map of the city of New York, and also to two views. Of the latter, the first represents a part of Broad-street, embracing an old house, a relic of Dutch elegance, which reminds one of the days of Dolph Heyliger, and of Peter the Headstrong. The other displays the spacious new building erected by Mr. Holt as a hotel and ordinary.

The map affords room for little other than a mere geographical description. The city of New York lies in the State of the same name, and is situated in latitude forty degrees, forty-two minutes, north; longitude seventy-four degrees, one minute, eight seconds, west, from Greenwich, England; and two degrees, fifty-four minutes, twenty-two seconds east, from the city of Washington. It stands on an island formerly called Manhattan, but now New York, which measures in length, from north to south, about fifteen miles, and from about a mile to a mile and a half in breadth. The river Hudson, or North River, separates this island from New Jersey, on the west; the river Haerlem on the north, from the main land. The East River, which is but a passage from the Sound to the Bay, divides it from Long Island, and the Bay or Harbour, from Staten Island. "According to Van der Douck," says a late writer, "who published a history of the New Netherlands, at Amsterdam, in 1656, Hudson's river was the English

name of the great river coming from the north; but the Dutch 'called it Mauritius, after Prince Maurice, who then presided over the government of Holland.' The Indian name of the Island was *Manhattan;* the Dutch called the city a *Nieuw Amsterdam;* and the English changed it to the name which it still retains. The same writer gives us the following description of the bay of New York.—'The bay on which Staten Island is situated is the most celebrated, because the East and North rivers flow into it—rivers, a particular description of which will presently be given, together with a number of kills, gats, and creeks, some of which resemble small rivers, and are navigable, as Raritan kill, kill Van Kull, Nieuvesink, &c. This bay is also so formed as to render it safe from all boisterous winds, and a thousand ships of burthen may harbour in it within the land. The entrance into the bay is extensive, and is accompanied with but little danger to those who have once gone, or who have been taught the passage. If persons are so inclined, and the wind fair, they may in one tide proceed from sea to the city of New Amsterdam, which lies five [Dutch] miles from the ocean, and that when deeply laden, with an easy sail, and by ships of the greatest burthen.' The following is the depth of water over the bar, as furnished by the pilot of the United States' ship Boston, which passed in June, 1830, with the wind from the westward:

Carried over the bar	-	-		-	25 feet 6 inches
Tide had fallen	-	-	-	-	1 6
					27 feet 0 inches."

It may be proper here to observe, that, strictly speaking, by the term "City of New York" is understood the county also, their limits being the same, although in general conversation the term refers only to that part built and paved. Since Hudson's first visit to this "pleasant land," both the soil and climate have undergone a material alteration; great labour and expense having been lavished on that part of the island now occupied by the houses, especially on that section most compactly built. High banks and hills have been levelled; marshes and swamps entirely filled up; a lake of fresh water called the Collect, near the middle of the city, and a high hill called Bayard's Mount, near the East River, have within a few years totally disappeared. Large tracts on the river side are *made ground*, and such parts of the island as have been cultivated have been found remarkably fertile, "producing a succession of fine crops with little labour, and almost without manure."

With the soil the climate has also changed. It has acquired a greater uniformity. The former intensely cold winters, and summers of fierce and protracted heat, occur less frequently, if at all, and their gradual amelioration has exerted a favourable influ-

ence in rendering the climate more healthy. Indeed, previous writers on this subject have estimated, that fewer persons die in New York, in proportion to the population, than in most of the large cities and towns of England, notwithstanding the proverbial salubrity of that climate. It is ascertained that in Paris, London, and Amsterdam, there are more deaths than births. In this as well as in other cities of the United States, there are at least two births to one death: We make this statement on the authority of the Transactions of the Literary and Philosophical Society of New York, (vol. I.) which adds, that "there can be no doubt but that the United States have an advantage over the healthiest parts of Europe." We have more clear days here than in Europe, and the greater part of our autumn "is unparalleled for beauty and pleasantness."

The situation of New York is peculiarly healthy, being nearly surrounded by water, and open to a sea breeze. Its distance from the Atlantic is only sixteen miles. There have already been a number of maps engraved to represent it. The first was taken somewhere about the year 1640, and when it was under the Dutch Government. From that, as well as from numerous other evidences not to be mistaken, it is easy to perceive that the town was originally commenced without any regular plan. For many years the settlers continued to lay out the streets, and construct the buildings according to accident, or the mere caprice of individuals. A copy of the map, above alluded to, ornamented Knickerbocker's valuable History of New York. All the prominent buildings therein discovered have now given place to others. About thirty years afterwards another view was taken, which has since been re-engraved, and may be found in a pamphlet lately published by Moulton. The city had then begun to assume its present form. In 1729, an enlarged map was published by James Lynes, Surveyor. Another map of the city appeared in 1766, and one of New York generally in 1774. In 1766 also, the English Parliament caused one to be engraved in London. Goërck and Margin issued one in 1803; and in 1811, a map by Bridges was executed by commissioners appointed by the state, for the purpose of laying out the greater part of the island for building. This was subsequently conducted on a regular and uniform principle.

At present, although we believe the whole island is laid out, it is closely built only from the Battery to Thirteenth-street, being a distance of almost three miles. Its breadth is about a mile and a half. It is anticipated that, from the almost unprecedented increase of the population not many years can elapse before the whole plan will be filled up.

The Battery forms the south western point of the city and island. Here the settlement first commenced. The streets emanating in radiating lines from this point are generally about three miles in length, with the exception of Broadway, which, in consequence of an improvement lately effected in joining this fine promenade to the Fourth Avenue, presents the singular prospect of a street nearly nine miles in a straight line, and, when a half century shall have extended the city nearer to its furthermost limits, will probably be without a rival.

Washington-street, Greenwich-street, Broadway, South, Front, Water, Pear, Broad, Nassau, and William streets, form the oldest portion of the city—built up principally before 1750. The shipping lies generally in the eastern waters. The south-eastern parts include the wealthy and most commercial portions ; the seats of trade and monied operations.

The whole island is laid out into eleven principal avenues, each one hundred feet wide. These are intersected by cross streets to the number of one hundred and fifty-six, and about sixty feet wide; of these, the Third Avenue, leading six miles from Vauxhall Garden to Harlaem, is the chief, and forms the principle thoroughfare in the road to the Eastern States. The old roads, used before the avenues were commenced, are stopped up as the main avenues are finished.

The compact part of the city—that is the part comprized within the watch and lamp districts, contains two hundred and fifty-six streets, and has been computed to measure one hundred miles of pavement.

It has been a general theme of regret, that they, under whose control the older parts of the city were constructed, had rendered so few facilities for squares, parks, green promenades, parade grounds, &c. The Commissioners, under the act of 1807, have very properly remedied this defect in regard to the future increase. From First-street up to One-Hundred-and-Fifty-Fifth-street, at Macomb's Bridge, there are 98,660 lots of 25 by 100 feet each—4,032 of these have been reserved for public purposes.

Of the future continued and rapid growth of the city of New York very few have any doubt, although some imagine that, in preference to augmenting the number of houses on the island, the new-comers will find it more to their advantage to build up the vacant land at Powles' Hook and Hoboken, on the opposite Jersey shore, and

Brooklyn, Williamsburgh, and Flatbush, Long Island. At these places rent is comparatively low and land cheap; and they offer a very desirable proximity to the business parts of this town. Although the price of land in this island is not extravagantly high, yet there are very burdensome assessments for opening avenues and streets, and for filling and regulating the ground.

Two defects, both important, but neither beyond the reach of remedy, will arrest the attention of the intelligent stranger: One is the state of the wharves, which are now constructed of wood, but should be solid masonry. The other, the want of a supply of water. Both of these, we trust, will ere long receive the efficient notice of the public authorities.

Of that portion of the city which has not yet been built up compactly, or in other words, of the rest of the island, the limits of which are also the limits of the county, it is not necessary here to say much. It consists principally of one formation, granite occasionally overlaid by other rock. We must except a section, stretching about three miles from the Battery, which is alluvial; near the mouth of King's Bridge Creek, about twelve miles from the City Hall, the granite ceases abruptly, and is succeeded by marble, so continuing to the termination of the island. This marble presents a most valuable material for building, is convenient to the river, and may be obtained in great quantities, and easily transported. It is supposed by many, that it will, at some future period, in a measure supersede the use of red sand-stone and brick.

In some parts porcelian clay has been found in small quantities.

The island presents various views of extreme beauty, and a pleasant tour may be made around it in a few hours; visiting the Lunatic Asylum, (of which we have already presented an engraving,) Harlaem and King's Bridge, Hurl Gate, the Alms House, and Penitentiary.

The number of houses in the city are annually increasing with singular rapidity, and many of them exceed in splendour any thing before seen this side of the Atlantic. They have been estimated, in 1816, at 47,900; and in 1828, at 80,000, within the last four years, the increase has gone on more rapidly. All the old fashioned wood tenements with shingle roofs, are disappearing, and brick houses with slate roofs occupy their place. It is, however, a disgrace to the wealthy men who are continually running up blocks of buildings on speculation, that many of

them are constructed carelessly, of very worthless materials, and inadequately put together. Numerous accidents have been the consequence. The catastrophe in Fulton-street, where an immense building, six stories high, (the site of which can be distinctly seen in the 18th Plate,) fell to the ground, crushing a number of human beings beneath its ruins, is yet fresh in every body's recollection; and, while we pen these remarks, a paper is lying on the table stating, that a brick edifice was yesterday blown down in a thunder-shower. Of this building we are assured, that the lower part of the walls were one brick and a half in thickness, the upper part only one brick. The mortar was so slightly laid on, that the bricks scattered about presented no appearance of having been touched by it. These are but exceptions to the general style of building, as others are raised with lavish expense and great elegance and taste, and travellers acknowledge that, in their internal construction, "the dwelling-houses in New York are not surpassed in any other country."

Among the most picturesque objects afforded by our city, several years ago, were those relics clothed with associations half ludicrous half melancholy, of our renowned ancestors the Dutch. There is something at once neat and ridiculous in their peculiar style of architecture. We have indeed paused before these venerable remnants of days gone by, not without a propensity to sentimentalize. Amid the new fangled fashions of modern architecture—the aspiring three story brick houses—the high flight of steps—the damask curtains—the glittering carriage and glossy prancing steeds before the door,—how plain and yet how striking appear these emblems of past times. Those sharp-pointed roofs, those leaden windows, those gable fronts, that lowly threshold whereby sat the stately burgomaster, with his fragrant pipe, while around him peradventure opened green fields, and above him rustled pleasant branches; and within, his plump and rosy-cheeked daughter, like a ripe peach for health and beauty—a lovely little Dutch Hebe by a spinning-wheel—a sweet Katrina Van Tassel—but whither does my fancy lead. The stately burgomaster's pipe is long since broken, and himself laid with his fathers; Katrina's laughing eyes no more send a cheerful thought to the heart of the chance traveller; and that venerable mansion in the picture—that sad remembrancer of a thousand pleasing scenes of love and quiet is (bones of the Vanderlyns and Vanderdams lie quiet while I write my history) a grocery store, where sugar, and ham, and molasses, and onions—things which doubtless would have made the hair of its first occupants stand on end—are retailed "cheap for cash."

The first engraving given in this number represents a building (recently taken

down) which stood on the east side of Broad street, No. 41. It was one hundred and thirty-two years old, and was one of the few which escaped the memorable conflagration of 1776.

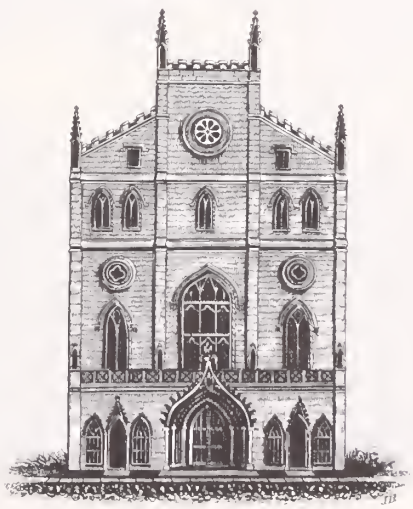
In the 18th plate we have the extensive hotel of Mr. Holt, an edifice very carefully constructed, and promising to be both useful and ornamental to the city. It stands on the corner of Fulton and Pearl streets. The front on Fulton street is 100 feet, on Pearl street 76 feet 6 inches, on Water street 85 feet 6 inches. It is 6 stories high, beside the basement. The height of the main building to the top of the cornice, is 75 feet; to the top of the promenade 85 feet; from the side walk to the top of the dome 125 feet. It contains a dining hall 100 feet in length, two side dining rooms 45 feet each, together with 25 parlours, making in all 165 rooms. One thousand people can be accommodated with dinner at once, and 300 with lodgings at night. The number of windows in the building is 450. Appertaining to the establishment is a well, bored 370 feet yielding, a constant supply of pure rock water, which by means of a steam engine is conveyed to every part of the building. Large cisterns are also placed in the garrets, to which hose are attached, for the purpose of conveying water freely and constantly—a safe guard against fire, invaluable and necessary in so extensive a building.

Mr. Holt has long been known as a caterer for the palates of a large number of citizens. In the present expensive establishment, we learn that it is his intention to improve upon all his previous arrangements.

WEBB'S CONGRESS HALL.

(142 Broadway)

MERCHANTS EXCHANGE—WALL-STREET



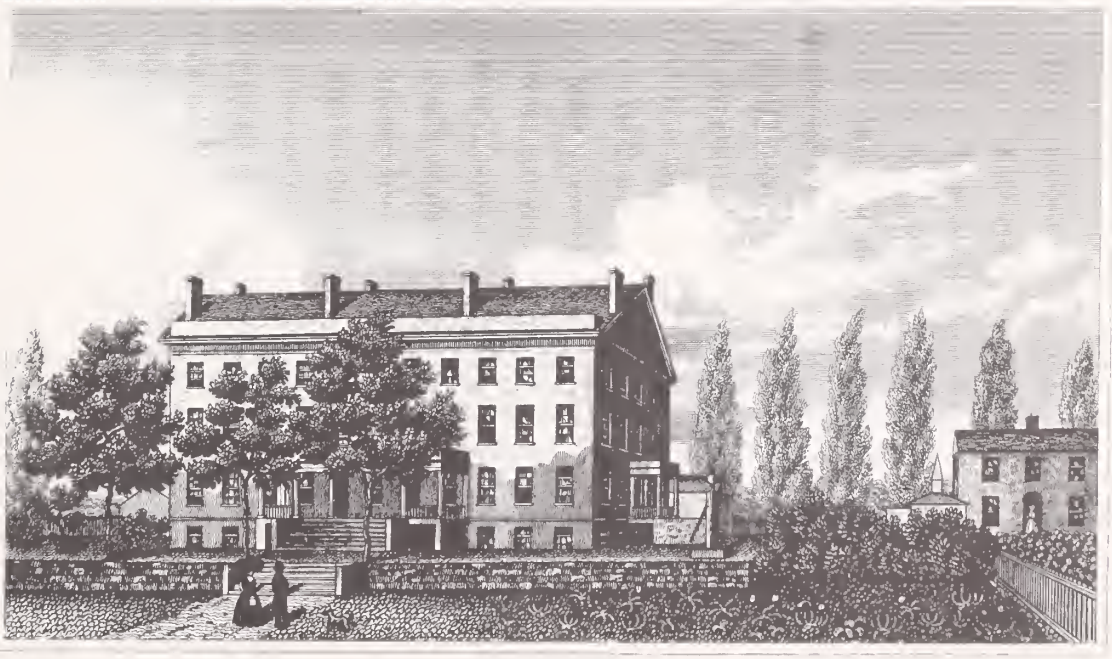
MASONIC HALL BROADWAY

New York Published by Peabody & C° — London O Rich N°12 Red Lion Square

Drawn and Engraved by M. Osborne.

PEARL STREET HOUSE & OHIO HOTEL.

(Hanover Square in the distance.)



Drawn and Engraved by M. Osborne.

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

New-York. Published by Peabody & Co.—London. O. Rich No. 12 Red-Lion Square.

CHAPTER VI.

WEBB'S CONGRESS HALL—MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE—MASONIC HALL—PEARL-STREET HOUSE—DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

WHOEVER has been recently at the Mountain House on the Caatskill, will remember our friend, its late attentive keeper. From that magnificent eminence, whence the delighted and wondering stranger, as if seated by Jupiter on his throne of clouds, views the earth, unrolled before him like a map, our worthy host has descended among his fellow mortals, and caters for their palates upon level ground. As descriptions of this kind of buildings can receive little value from the aid of imagination, being rather a matter-of-fact piece of business, we shall venture to borrow a paragraph from one of our daily Journals, making the reader acquainted with all the necessary particulars.

WEBB'S CONGRESS HALL.

"This spacious and elegant hotel is now open for the reception of guests. Its situation is one of the most pleasant and eligible in the city, being on the east side of Broadway, between Cedar and Liberty streets. The buildings which have here been converted into an establishment for the accommodation of travellers and others, belong to the estate of the late James Anderson, and have been fitted up in very superior style. The upper parts of the four dwellings on Broadway have been thrown into one, and the sleeping and other apartments are well adapted to their several purposes—in fact, from an examination of the premises, we are free to confess that the *tout ensemble* exhibits a rare combination of the useful and ornamental. There are twelve parlors for the accommodation of private families, to each of which a bed-room is attached—a convenience that cannot be too highly appreciated. A large four-story building has been erected in the rear, the first floor of which is occupied by the dining-room, than which there is not a more elegant one in the city. One hundred and fifty persons can here dine, without the slightest inconvenience, or fear of being crowded. The upper part is entirely occupied as sleeping apartments, most of which are single rooms, and all neatly furnished. In addition to this description, it is only necessary to say, that this fine hotel is conducted by Mr. Charles H. Webb, too long and extensively known as one of the most intelligent, gentlemanly, and capable persons of his calling in this country to need any compliment from us. We have

more than once had 'a taste of his quality' as host of the Mountain House, and have therefore reason to know with what liberality, ability, and address he presides over an extensive establishment."

In passing, it may be well enough to observe, that knowing the greedy curiosity of the age, and the proverbial minute accuracy characterizing modern description, it would give the industrious writer of these pages the greatest gratification to inform his readers who those two young ladies are, on the left, under the awning—(which, by the way, scarcely appears of the height prescribed by law)—where the well-dressed female with the parasol is going—and what makes the gentleman, driving tha mettlesome gig Bucephalus, so sleepy: but these, with other scenes and subjects of a private nature, and of minor consideration, must be overlooked by the grave historian. We therefore pass on to things more dull and durable.

Under Webb's Hall are given good engravings of two buildings, one of which looks a good deal better in the picture than it does in real life. The first one is the Merchants' Exchange, for a description of which the reader is referred to Part 3 of this publication. On the right of the Merchants' Exchange is Masonic Hall. We already have a description of this in the New-York Mirror:—It is situated on the east side of Broadway, nearly opposite the Hospital. Its style of architecture is purely gothic, without the least mixture of any other order; copied from the most approved classical models, with original appendages, by our celebrated artist Hugh Reinagle, Esq.

The corner-stone of this building was laid on St. John's day, June 24, 1825, by Grand Master Elisha W. King, in presence of a large assembly of the fraternity, and a numerous concourse of citizens. The building has a front of fifty feet on Broadway, and extends back, towards Elm-street, one hundred and twenty-five feet, including the stair-way, retiring-rooms, offices, &c. in the rear. The *cellar story* below the level of the street, is divided into several departments, including refectories, offices, and kitchens; extending, from front to rear, ninety-five feet, and nearly ten feet in height, with vaults, &c. in front, on the street. The *basement story* (or ground floor above the street) is nearly fourteen feet in height, and includes the great entrance hall extending through the centre of the building, ten feet in width, and highly enriched with arches, pendants, open friths in the spandrils, and a beautiful frieze of raised gothic ornaments. At the farther end of the hall, the stairs start to the several apartments above. On each side are two ranges of apartments, comprising stores, bar-rooms, &c. The whole of the second story is thrown into one grand saloon, ninety feet in length, forty-seven feet in breadth, and

twenty-five in height. The ceiling of this splendid apartment is divided into basket or fan arches, with pendants of open-work columns, supporting the arches projecting from the walls, between which are the windows, with raised labels, enriched with crotches, terminating with flowers at the points, and supported at the ends with carved corbles.

A music gallery extends across the lower end of the room, supported by a truss girder, leaving the floor free of obstructions for public assemblies. The front of the gallery is enriched with gothic tracery, pierced through, and the floor is supported by elastic springs for dancing; the whole forming a most elegant and convenient ball-room.

Above the grand saloon in the third story, are four *lodge-rooms* for master masons, while the attic is divided into two apartments, which are elegantly furnished for royal arch chapters. These last are richly decorated with *clusters of columns*, arches, and open panels, with splendid draperies. From the lofty windows, the prospect is most extensive and beautiful. The whole city, with its unrivalled bay, adorned with verdant islands, and white-sailed vessels, with our two majestic rivers, and the adjacent country, all lie before you like a panoramic painting. This last remark, however, will apply with equal force to the Merchants' Exchange, and many other public edifices of this city.

The front of the Masonic Hall, which is of granite stone, is seventy feet from the street to the battlements in the centre. The pinnacles rise more than ten feet above the roof. The centre door, at the grand entrance, is of massy oak, with carved panels, &c.; very forcibly reminding one of the descriptions to be met with in many romances, of ancient abbeys, castles, and other edifices of the gothic ages.

The *centre window*, in the second story, is a splendid specimen of this order of architecture. It is twenty-two feet in height, and ten feet in width, finished with proper lead lights, diamond form. A range of stone battlements terminates the front at the roof, while larger ones surmount the flank walls. The dormant windows have open-work, battlements, &c.

THE OLD PEARL-STREET HOUSE.

The third plate represents the Old Pearl-street House, owned by Alderman Peters. It has been established for twenty-five years, and is extensively known as the resort of merchants from every part of the Union, especially from the western part of the state of New-York, and from Ohio. During the present summer it has been greatly extended by the erection of spacious additional buildings, containing several elegant dining-rooms

on the second floor, and ranges of sleeping-rooms above. Its dimensions are 53 feet on Pearl, and 75 on Water-street, and 142 feet from street to street. This area is covered with four-story buildings, except a small court yard and a two-story edifice, on the roof of which is a flower garden. It is said to be the largest commercial boarding-house in the United States—and it is merely and strictly a commercial boarding-house, not being intended for the accommodation of families or ladies. It contains accommodations for 300 boarders, and, in the neatness with which it is fitted up, and the conveniences with which it is furnished, rivals the best establishments of the kind in the country.

It will be observed, that the specimens of humanity given in this plate are, with the exception of that young lady in the gig, and perhaps one or two individuals of doubtful sex, regarding the busy scene from the Ohio Hotel windows, entirely of the masculine gender. This must be explained to distant readers as resulting from the fact that amid the business sections of this once quiet town of Manahatta, of which that under consideration is one of the most thronged, the fairer part of creation rarely, if ever, venture. We should as soon expect to see a Liverpool packet steering her course under a crowd of sail up through Broadway, as to detect a woman in this part of Pearl-street, or in Wall-street, or south, or thereabout. We must say for our artist, that however admirably he has represented the street itself, he has not (and perhaps it was impossible for him to do so) furnished an adequate idea of the pressure and confusion, to be found generally in this and similar parts of the city—boxes, barrels, bales, carts, and barrows; men running hither and thither, as if the very old Harry were in them—so that it would be by no means impossible, should a timid girl, wandering through the bewildering labyrinths of this most crooked of towns, be betrayed into such a scene, she might be jostled off the walk with a most unceremonious disregard of decency, as well as of politeness, by some of the very youths who, in the evening and at her own drawing-rooms, would address her with the delicate reverence due to a superior spirit. If there be any town, city, village, or hamlet, on the face of this globe, where the laconic motto, "business is business," is carried to an extent almost passing credit, New-York is the place.

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

The New-York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb was incorporated on the 15th April, 1817, and commenced its operations, the year following, with a class of seven pupils. Its establishment grew out of the necessity of making some provision for the education of indigent Deaf Mutes in this city, there being about sixty of this unfortunate class, a number quite too great to be sent abroad for instruction.

The government of the Institution is vested in a President, two Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and Secretary, who, with twenty others, constitute a Board of Directors, who meet monthly for the transaction of business.

The Edifice or Asylum for the accommodation of the pupils, the corner-stone of which was laid October 19, 1827, is situated about three and a half miles from the City Hall, on the Fifth Avenue, adjacent to the line of the New-York and Harlem Rail Road, and within a short distance of the great post road, leading from New-York to New-Haven. It is one hundred and ten feet long, and sixty feet wide, built of brick, covered with stucco, resembling marble, and, including a basement, is four stories high. It contains rooms sufficient to accommodate, with board, lodging, and tuition, one hundred and fifty Mutes, together with the requisite number of Instructers, and cost 31,000 dollars. It is ornamented in front with a beautiful colonnade of fifty feet in length, which occupies the centre of the building. The ground, on which it is erected, consisting of one acre, was a donation from the Corporation of the city, who have leased to the Directors, for a term of years, nine acres in addition, which are handsomely laid out into lawns and gardens, planted with trees and shrubbery, contributing to the gratification of taste, and affording, to such as desire it, the opportunity of becoming acquainted with horticulture.

With a view of making the Institution the more useful, workshops have been erected, in which the majority of the male pupils, when not engaged in their studies, spend a few hours daily in some mechanical employment. The number of occupations, submitted to the choice of the pupils or their friends, is at present four, and may hereafter be increased. They are gardening, tailoring, shoe-making, and cabinet-making ; all of which are under the direction of skilful workmen of unexceptionable character. The object intended by the system of manual labor, is to deliver the mute from that state of dependence, to which nature seems to have doomed him, and to qualify him for ministering to himself the means of future subsistence.

The females at the same time are instructed in needlework, and such other household duties as are embraced in a good domestic education. Drawing and painting are also taught to those who have a taste for these branches.

The number of pupils at present in the Institution is eighty-eight, who are divided into five classes, and supplied with large slates of an excellent quality, imported from Wales. A chapel is fitted up in an appropriate manner, for the accommodation of the pupils in attending morning and evening prayers, and religious worship on the sabbath. The

general system of intellectual and religious instruction, is under the direction and control of the Principal of the Institution, Mr. H. P. Peet, who has also the superintendence of its internal affairs. It is similar to that adopted in the other Institutions, of the same kind, in the United States. The Principal has the experience of eleven years, nine of which were spent in connexion with the American Asylum at Hartford, and is familiar with the improvements which have been made in the system of educating Deaf Mutes since its introduction into this country. Associated with him are five Professors of high intellectual and moral worth, who will spare no efforts to advance to a state of perfection what the great masters of the science have so successfully begun. With this end in view, it is proposed speedily to establish a course of lectures in Physics, Chemistry, Natural History, Geography, Sacred and Profane History, History of the Arts, and Political Economy.

The government of the Institution is wholly parental, embracing a complete supervision over the pupils in their hours of relaxation, as well as those of labor and study, and is the most efficient visible means of promoting the practice of morality, and of encouraging a correct and manly deportment.

We cannot, therefore, resist the conviction, that the facilities possessed by this Institution, for promoting the intellectual and moral improvement of Deaf Mutes, and for securing the great objects which ought to be embraced in a course of education, are not surpassed by any others of a similar character, in this country or in Europe.

Among the benevolent institutions springing from a civilized state of society, few so directly appeal to the best sympathies of our nature, as that of which we have just concluded a brief sketch. In human beings, endowed with all their senses, the soul ranges through creation to the farthest limits set by Providence: all its faculties are freely unfolded, all its sources of pleasure enjoyed. How different is it with those unfortunates to whom the blessings of speech and hearing are denied? Of what extraordinary advantages, as well as pleasures, are they ignorant? How many capacities for happiness—how many energies for action, may lie torpid in such an imperfect state! The soul, shut up in a prison, languishes, bereft of half its strength and beauty. Surely these innocent victims of so awful a calamity are objects of compassion. And surely those intelligent and philanthropic gentlemen, to whose noble exertions we owe the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, merit the respectful gratitude of them, and of all the world, for adding so greatly to the sum of human happiness. We must also experience surprise at their success, as well as admiration of their goodness. By their ingenious mode of in-

struction, the most extraordinary effect is produced upon the pupil. When he first enters the establishment, his mind is hidden from others, and even from himself: it resembles a flower, long before the bud begins to unfold its leaves, weak and drooping, for want of air and sunshine. It is curious and beautiful to watch the breaking in of intelligence upon such a character: the dawning of day is scarcely more perceptible in the east: a sudden and wonderful revolution changes the whole nature and appearance. An interesting occurrence was related to the writer by one now holding a high office in the Institution, and to whose individual exertions much of its success may be ascribed. There came a poor lad from an obscure country place: he was uncouth in his person, and awkward in his manners: sickness too was on him; and, altogether, he presented the appearance of one almost a blot on creation; a burthen to himself, and painful to look on. The physician of the Institution, Dr. Akerly, first undertook his cure, physically, and with complete success. He was then admitted into the class, and soon the heavenly spark of intelligence was communicated to his benighted mind: his face and person gradually altered, and fell into a symmetry and elegance almost incredible: the idiot face beamed with sense and soul; his round unmeaning eyes were lighted with thought and feeling; he grew up in health, strength, grace, and manly beauty, and has since afforded most surprising testimony to the efficacy of this benevolent Institution.

One of the most delightful exhibitions ever witnessed in New-York, was the public examination of the pupils of this Institution, in the Assembly Room of the City Hotel, on Tuesday, December 18th. So intense was the anxiety to behold the success of the mode of instruction employed, that this noble apartment was not only filled, but many hundreds of individuals were unable to obtain admittance. A brief account of the proceedings cannot fail to be interesting, as exhibiting the greatest triumph which untiring benevolence ever achieved, in affording the priceless treasures of education to an unfortunate but interesting class, whom it was hitherto supposed nature herself had insuperably prevented from acquiring them.

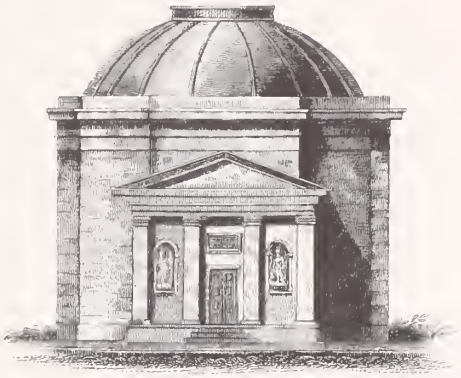
An eloquent and appropriate address was delivered by Mr. Peet, explaining to the audience the origin and successful prosecution of the system in England, and the philosophical principles by which the art of conveying instruction by signs was conducted.

The pupils, seated on the right hand of the stage, formed a most pleasing groupe. The left was occupied by the officers of the Institution. The discourse was followed by a prayer in the language of signs, in which the pupils exhibited the most ardent feelings of devotion. After the prayer, the children went through a variety of exercises, according

to their ages, which exemplified the progress and adaptation of the art to their different capacities. These consisted of manual signs, names of objects, illustrations of the analytical mode of instruction, writing from dictation, signs for synonyms and for passions and emotions, translation of natural signs into written language, specimens of narrative and description, and the reading of uncorrected original compositions of the pupils. Among these was a very interesting account by a girl, of an excursion which she made from the Institution to the city, where she visited the American Museum, and described accurately the various curiosities in the place, and the various adventures which she met on her way back: another, by a lad, was a biography of Robert Fulton, detailing all his discoveries and the principal events of his life; and another gave a complete description of the different processes of preparing linen, from the sowing of the flax, to its finished state. One boy excited universal admiration by the talent which he displayed in giving the signs from synonyms, and the expression of the various passions and emotions of the mind. This clever child is the orphan son of the late G. A. Gamage, known as the contributor of many poetical pieces to the New-York Commercial Advertiser, under the title of "*Montgarnier.*"

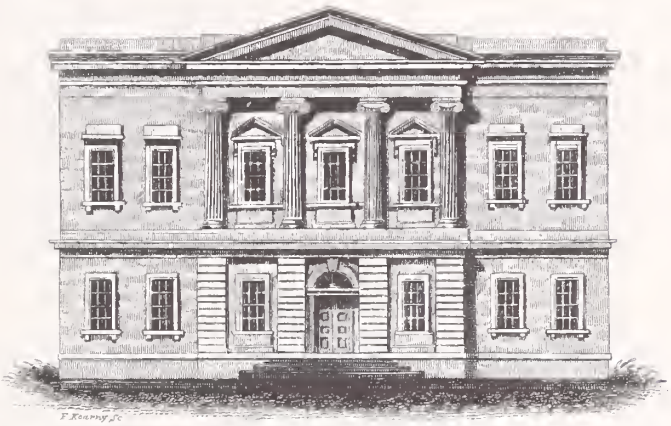
Another class translated a story from signs into writing: these were afterwards read, uncorrected, to the audience; and it was astonishing to see the grammatical accuracy and ease of composition which the different versions displayed.

The meeting was closed by an address from Dr. Milnor, the president of the Institution, which, in the motives and objects they proposed to attain, were admirably illustrated.



ROTUNDA — CHAMBERS-STREET

GRACE CHURCH—BROADWAY



U.S. BRANCH BANK — WALL STREET

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH—BEEKMAN ST.

ST. PATRICKS CATHEDRAL - MOTT ST.

New York Published by Peabody & Co. London, O. Rich N°12 Red Lion Square.

CHAPTER VII.

THE ROTUNDA—GRACE CHURCH—UNITED STATES' BRANCH BANK—ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH—ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CARMINE STREET—ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH—UNITARIAN CHURCH, MERCER, CORNER OF PRINCE STREET—WASHINGTON HOTEL—BOWERY THEATRE.

IN this number of our series the reader is presented with several detached views of churches and other public buildings, which, though they may not possess the same elegance as pictorial embellishments, as most of our other engravings, are nevertheless essentially necessary to give a correct delineation of the principal features of the city; for most of the original drawings we are indebted to the politeness of George P. Morris, Esq. as also the descriptive letter-press which accompanies them.

THE ROTUNDA

"This classical edifice, which (as the word imports) is of a circular form, both internally and externally, was erected in the summer of 1818, for the exhibition of large panoramic paintings. It fronts in Chambers, near the head of Cross street, occupying ground belonging to the Corporation, which was granted to the projector, Mr. John Vanderlyn, the celebrated artist, free of rent for ten years, on condition that the building should devolve to the city at the expiration of that time. It is constructed of brick, is fifty-three feet in diameter, and forty feet in height, surmounted with a pantheon-shaped dome and skylight, through which the interior is lighted."

"The panoramic views, which were successively exhibited in this elegant gallery, gave great and general satisfaction, and reflected much honour on the tasteful and indefatigable artist before mentioned. Among others, our readers will remember, with pleasure, the palace and gardens of Versailles, painted by Mr. Vanderlyn, and the city of Paris, by Mr. Barker; also, the cities of Mexico and Athens, and the city and lake of Geneva—all of which views were likewise exhibited in London, and excited in that great metropolis an admiration equal to that manifested here."

The building, a few years since, according to the original contract, devolved to the city, and is now occupied as the Marine Court House, but it is to be hoped that this tribunal will be transferred to a situation more suitable, and the building re-appropriated to its original purpose, for which its airy and spacious dimensions peculiarly adapt it.

GRACE CHURCH.

"Grace Church, which is situated in Broadway, corner of Rector street, occupies the site of a former Lutheran Church, erected in the year 1671, and destroyed by fire in 1776, on the day after the British took possession of the city. Trinity Church, and most of the lower part of the city, was laid in ashes by the same unfortunate conflagration. Grace Church was erected in 1809 as an independent church. It is a neat substantial edifice of brick, with a handsome cupola. The rear of the building is of an elliptical form, with a terraced garden, and the rector's house adjoining. The interior of the church is elegant, and has four massive pillars at each front angle of the gallery, running up to and supporting an arched and panelled ceiling. The pulpit is in front of the ellipsis, with a raised mahogany enclosure surrounding the altar. In the gallery, fronting the pulpit, is a large and elegant organ, made by Mr. Geil, of this city, which is said to be of excellent tone."

UNITED STATES' BRANCH BANK.

"The corner-stone of this chaste edifice was laid in the spring of 1822, but owing to the epidemic scourge with which the city was visited, and by which its lower section was totally depopulated in the autumn of that memorable year, its progress was so much retarded that it was not completed until the spring of 1824. It was first opened for the transaction of business on the fourteenth of April, in that year."

"The building is of white marble, from the quarries of Westchester, and was designed and erected by Mr. Martin E. Thomson. It shows a front of sixty feet in Wall street, and is about seventy feet deep, occupying a lot that cost nearly as much as the edifice itself, viz. forty thousand dollars. The building is constructed in the most substantial manner, and is fire proof throughout. Besides the Banking room, which is thirty feet in height, and surrounded with a gallery, there are apartments for the accommodation of the directors, stockholders, &c. with others occupied as a loan office, the payment of United States' pensioners, &c. The gallery, vestibule, and portico, add much to the beauty of the structure."

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

"This building, which is situated in Beekman street, was first erected in the year 1752, and, with the exception of Trinity, is the oldest Episcopal Church in this city. It is constructed of brown hewn stone, and is 102 feet in length by 72 in width. In 1811 it separated from Trinity by mutual agreement, and became a distinct parish. In 1814, in the night of the 5th of January, it caught fire from the conflagration of a workshop in its rear, and every thing combustible about it was reduced to ashes; the interior, roof, clock. steeple, pulpit, and all—nothing but the bare walls remained. With the prompt and efficient aid of Trinity Church it was again rebuilt and consecrated in November, 1815. It is a plain edifice, and has now a quadrangular tower, with a railing on the top, but no spire. It has a clock in the tower which is considered an excellent timepiece, and a fine-toned organ in the front gallery."

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

"This magnificent gothic superstructure is situated at the corner of Mott and Prince streets, fronting on the former. It is said to be the largest religious edifice in the city, being one hundred and twenty feet in length by eighty feet in width. It is constructed of stone in a massive style, the walls being several feet in thickness, and seventy feet in height, from the summit of which the roof rises in a sharp angle to the height of one hundred feet. This aspiring roof, in connexion with two quadrangular towers on the front corners, and a central steeple, forms the most conspicuous object in approaching the city from the east."

"The front of the building is faced with hewn brown stone, and several niches are left open for statues which are to be placed when the whole is finished, when it will be undoubtedly the noblest looking edifice in the city. It is furnished with a fine-toned organ and select choir, whose performances are generally and justly admired."

"The interior of the Cathedral, which is furnished and painted in a superior style, is capable of holding five thousand people, although it has no side galleries. The whole cost of the building, when finished, will not fall short of one hundred thousand dollars. No church in the United States (the Cathedral in Baltimore excepted) will then compare with it in capacity and elegance. In point of style we think it superior to that of Baltimore. Indeed, the gothic order seems to be the fittest for religious edifices, and it was

invented and perfected when the Catholic church was in the zenith of its power and magnificence, by ecclesiastical personages, expressly for religious purposes."

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CARMINE, HEAD OF VARICK STREET.

"This recently erected edifice is one of the handsomest places of worship in the city, and the creditable manner in which it has been constructed is an honour to the respectable congregation which frequents it. It is built of white marble, in a chaste doric style, and the front has a very imposing appearance, being modelled after the celebrated ruins of the Temple of Jason, at Illisus. The interior is elegantly finished, and the whole is a very conspicuous ornament to the street."

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH.

The great and rapid increase of population in this city, and the almost exclusive appropriation of the lower part of it to the purposes of business, made the erection of a new church absolutely necessary for the accommodation of the numerous genteel families who were forced to take up their residences in the less frequented parts. With this view the first stone of St. Thomas's Church was laid in 1823, and was finished and consecrated in 1826. It is built of stone, and is more purely gothic in its style than any edifice in this city. The front is very fine, and has a most imposing effect from the two towers by which it is flanked, and the rich and beautiful window above the door.

The interior is striking and elegant; the roof being in imitation of Westminster Hall, without any pillars, but supported only by buttresses of timber, carved and painted in imitation of oak, which, at a proper elevation, project horizontally on each side, and then rise towards the roof and sustain the arch. Since its consecration spacious galleries, and a fine-toned organ, have been added.

SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH.

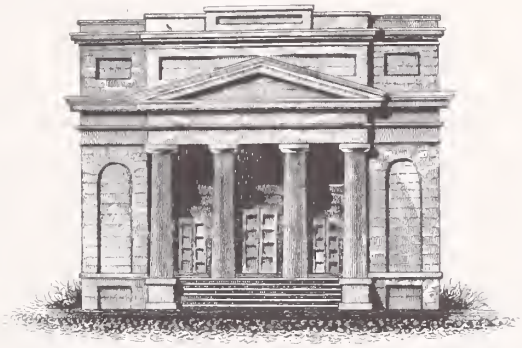
"This elegant structure, which fronts on Mercer street, at the corner of Prince street, was erected in 1826, and consecrated on the 7th of December, by the Rev. Dr. Channing, of Boston. It is constructed of brick, and covered with a beautiful white cement, in imitation of marble. Its dimensions are sixty-three feet by eighty. The style of architecture is doric; the designs of the front entablature, being furnished by the cele-

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CARMINE STREET

New York.

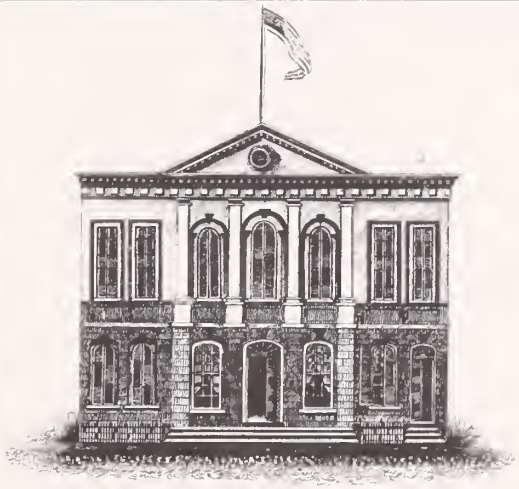
St THOMAS' CHURCH BROADWAY.

New York.



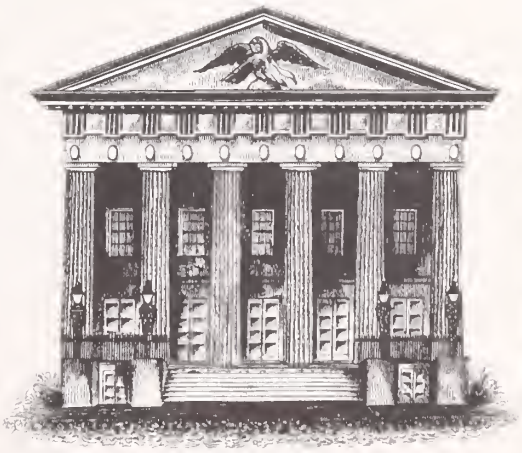
2d UNITARIAN CHURCH MERCER COR. PRINCE St

New York.



WASHINGTON HOTEL BROADWAY.

New York.



BOWERY THEATRE.

New York.

New York! Published by Peabody & Co. London, O. Rich, N°12 Red Lion Square. 1833.

brated monument of Thrasylu, at Athens, drawn by J. G. Pearson, Esq. of this city. The interior, which is finished in the modern style, without side galleries, contains one hundred and thirty-two pews on the principal floor, and twenty-four in the music gallery.

WASHINGTON HOTEL.

Among the many noble establishments for which our city is distinguished, for the accommodation of strangers, none hold a higher rank than the Washington Hotel, kept by Mr. Chester Bailey. It is an extensive edifice, built of brick, in the plain doric style, and situated on the corner of Broadway and Reed street. In the year 1828, it was entirely altered and repaired, with the addition of several new parlours, and newly furnished in a style of elegance equal to any in the country.

AMERICAN THEATRE, BOWERY.

We now pass from the description of edifices, generally religious, to one of a gayer description. Nothing more highly indicates our rapid advance in all the elegancies of civilized life, than the fact that so many buildings are supported solely to minister to the wants and wishes of cultivated taste. Indeed, when we reflect, that as lately as 1776, Theatres were not only censured by the authorities of the city, but a handsome donation presented by the comedians for the benefit of the poor was returned with contempt, because such amusements, as they said, tended to promote criminality and vice, we may surely wonder at the existence of this elegant structure, in addition to an Italian Opera, and six other public places of amusement.

This building holds a first rank as one of the most conspicuous public ornaments to the city. The first stone was laid in May, 1826, with great pomp and ceremony, by the Hon. Philip Hone, Mayor, one of the most enlightened and public-spirited gentlemen who ever held the first authority in the city. It was finished and decorated in a very superior style, and opened for theatrical representations, in the October following. The management was conducted with great spirit, and its popularity soon became so great, that the manager was enabled to pay to Signora Garcia the enormous sum of $600 a night, for performing in the Italian and English Opera, being the largest salary ever given in the United States; but the crowded houses which were attracted (though the prices were doubled) by this inimitable singer, fully justified even this extravagant charge.

The Bowery Theatre continued to increase in favor and prosperity until the evening of March 22d, 1829, when, like its rival in the Park, it was totally consumed; the conflagration presenting one of the grandest and most sublime spectacles ever witnessed in the city.

It was not long, however, before the present magnificent building rose in renovated splendour from its ruins. It is designed by the classical taste of Mr. Tourn, from the celebrated Temple of Theseus, at Athens, and is said to be the finest specimen of doric architecture in the United States. The entablature above the portico is ornamented with a boldly executed eagle, in bass relief, richly gilt, which has a noble effect. The corps dramatique here is very effective, and numerous new pieces are continually presented. Many eminent English performers have made their debut in this theatre.—Messrs. Holland, Chapman, De Camp, Pearman, and Misses George, and Rock; also, Mr. and Mrs. Younge, with many others; likewise, Mr. Forrest, an American performer.

Nothing can form a more striking evidence of the gigantic improvement of our good city than the associations connected with the buildings described in the present number of our views, compared with all that we could gather of New York but a few years back. What an evidence of wide spread wealth and commercial enterprise, do we find in the noble structure of the United States' Bank, which, like the heart of an organic form, transmits through its various offices, the circulating medium, the rich current of a nation's life, connecting in the immense ramifications of a strong and natural interest distant states and kingdoms with our own community, and diffusing over the whole land that reciprocated confidence which is, at once, the source and surest bond of the social compact.

Again we find, in the outward and internal decorations of our elegant churches, that attention to the beauties of taste, and which can spring only from the satiety of abounding comforts; our forefathers, skilled in all the abstract polemics of the time, were content with the severest simplicity of decorum in their worship, and mere unadorned security from the weather in their religious edifices. *We* meet in temples enriched with sculptured entablatures, Grecian columns, or gothic arches; and in our worship, instead of the

simple hymn of praise we hear the swell of the organ, and the sweeter tones of the modulated voice resounding from fretted ceilings, or dying away amid pillared aisles, every sect seeming to forget the minor shades of difference in their creed, and to have only a becoming emulation as to the greater beauty of the temples of a common God, and a more elegant decorum in the varying forms of a common faith.

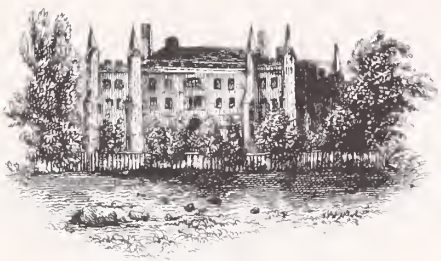
Viewing the magnificence, with which the various religions are established in New York, and the general harmony among all denominations, one of the most curious particulars of colonial history is the deep antipathy which was formerly maintained against the Roman Catholics. The following extract from the history of the celebrated Negro Plot, in 1741, will throw much curious light upon this subject:—

"A holy hatred of the Roman Catholics was at that period inculcated by church and state. Our Dutch forefathers, glowing with all the zeal of the early reformers, emigrated to this country shortly after the emancipation of the United Netherlands from the Spanish yoke, and fostered all the rancor of their race against Papists and Spaniards. It was the policy of the English government, after the conquest, to cherish this animosity, and those of our readers who were born and educated before the American Revolution, will recollect how religiously they were taught to abhor the Pope, Devil, and Pretender. The act of our Provincial Assembly, against Jesuits and Papist priests, passed 2d William and Mary, and which continued in full force until our independence, was owing, not only to these prejudices, but to the exposed situation of the colony, the northern frontier of which was bounded by Canada, at that time in possession of France, the natural and ever-daring enemy of England. The intolerant spirit of this act shows the horror and detestation in which the Roman Catholics were held, and will account why so few of this profession existed in this city and colony before the revolution.

"In estimating this singular event in our colonial history, the circumstances of the times should be duly considered, before we too hastily condemn the bigotry and cruelty of our predecessors. The advantages of a liberal, indeed of the plainest education, was the happy lot of very few. Intercourse between the colonies and the mother country, and between province and province, was very rare. Ignorance and illiberal prejudices universally prevailed. Their more favoured and enlightened posterity will therefore draw a veil of filial affection over the involutary errors of their forefathers, and emulating their simple virtues, endeavour to transmit a brighter example to their successors."

But the difference between the constituted society of ancient and modern times is still more strongly marked in the other characteristics of our taste and manners, than in religion. Our new and costly theatres, and spacious panoramas, indicate a relish for the elegant refinements of civilized society, very different from the times when our ancestors were delighted to observe, in secret, the second-hand wit of vagrant actors, for the stage was too great an innovation to be openly countenanced by the dignity of official morality. Again too, the whole constitution of manners has assumed a higher tone, and to see our macadamized roads covered with glittering equipages, and our flagged and canopied pathways with fashionable loungers, must conjure up strange ideas in our mind when we reflect upon the time when the worthy Van Sweetans and Van Nordens, of other days, used to smoke their pipes on the commons on the west of the Broadway.

Few sights can be, in our opinion, more exhilarating than to either walk on a fine evening on the splendid line of road, from the Third Avenue, and to see it covered with gay crowds who throng it with every variety of vehicle and steed: the animated lover reining in his high-bred hunter, to keep pace with the graceful maiden on the ambling jennet by his side; the wealthy merchant, with every thing comfortable about him, from the patent axles of his cabriolet to the appearance of the laughing inmates that fill it; the fashionable, in his tandem, and a thousand others. Or what spectacle can be more beautiful than to see the noble rivers that surround our city, and the magnificent bay that leads them to the deep, covered with vessels of every dimension, from the splendid packet to the little yacht, sporting its white sails in the Zephyr, and all indicating a mighty centre of attraction, and an absorbing focus, at once, of business and amusement. In the inevitable certainty of coming events, we can hardly estimate, too high, the greatness which awaits New York. Our vast continent teeming with undeveloped richness, will be advancing for centuries in improvement. Our city, the grand outlet of its immense produce, and the main channel through which, from all the world, its unlimited wants must be supplied, will increase in mightiness and size, and the arts and sciences brightening in the train of wealth, must render it, through time, the western rival of the great commercial emporium of Europe, not merely in its wide extent, but in the splendor of decoration and universal interest which distinguishes London, the Modern Tyre.



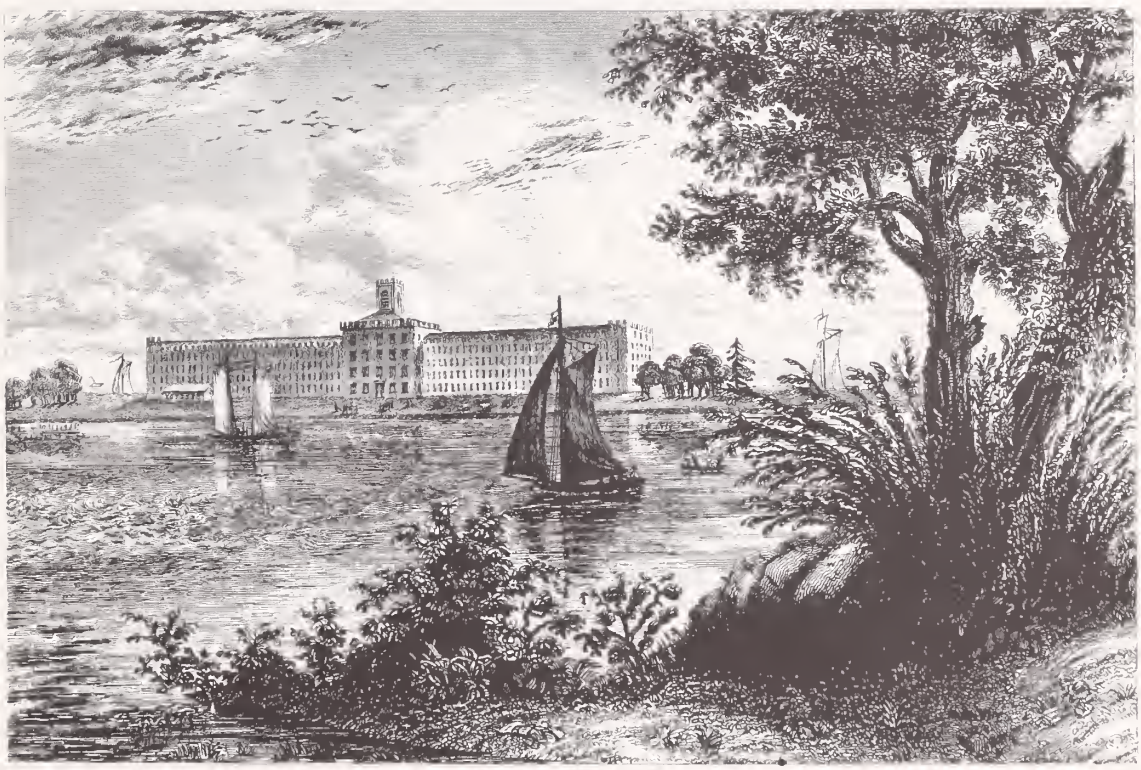
EPISCOPAL SEMINARY

GREENWICH

OIL CLOTH MANUFACTORY

GREENWICH

FULTON MARKET



PENITENTIARY BLACKWELLS ISLAND

New York Published Jan. 1834. by Peabody & Co. London O Rich N° 8. Red Lion Square

CHAPTER VIII.

Our work is coming to a close—two more numbers, and it will complete the original intention of the proprietors. Those are nearly finished, and will be issued shortly, in a double number, with title-page, index, and directions for binding, &c.

THE EPISCOPAL SEMINARY, GREENWICH.

The beautiful miniature view which is first upon the plate will be immediately recognised as the Episcopal Seminary. This institution is established on the Hudson River, between Ninth and Tenth avenues, and Twentieth and Twenty-first streets.

No situation could possibly have been selected more appropriate in every respect. The view of the river and the romantic shore of the Hudson on the opposite site, rendered classical by the favourite lines of Halleck—with the seclusion of the vicinity are strictly in unison with the important studies that are here pursued.

The lot of ground, which is about three acres, was presented by Clement C. Moore, Esq. The building is a substantial edifice of stone, three stories in height, and was completed in 1826-7.

Liberal donations have been made by Episcopalians, in all parts of the United States, to this National Seminary; but the most important was by Jacob Sherred, which amounted to eighty thousand dollars—with this solid foundation on which to commence operations, it has attained the highest prosperity, aided by the following eminent Professors:

Rt. Rev. Bishop Onderdonk, Professor of Ecclesiastical History and the Nature, Ministry and Polity of the Church.

Clement C. Moore, L. L. D., Professor of Oriental and Greek Literature.

Samuel H. Turner, D. D., Professor of Biblical Learning and the Interpretation of Scripture.

Bird Wilson, D. D., Professor of Systematic Divinity.

———————— Professor of Pastoral Theology and Pulpit Eloquence, lately vacated by the removal of the Rev. Dr. Wainwright to Boston.

———————— Professor of the Evidence of Revealed Religion and of Moral Science in its relations to Theology.

The duties of the vacant Professorships are performed by the other Professors during the vacancies.

Dean of the Faculty—Bird Wilson, D. D.

There are at present sixty-six students. The expense of each student, for each term of nine months, including washing, &c., is about eighty dollars—nearly all the students board in the building.

THE OIL CLOTH MANUFACTORY.

Of this old building, it is unnecessary to say more than that it is situated at Greenwich, and afforded for the pencil of a young and ambitious artist, a fine *subject* for the display of his talents.

Gainsborough the celebrated landscape painter used frequently to make rough sketches when very young—no fine clump of trees—no picturesque stream—nor romantic glade—no cattle grazing—nor flocks reposing—nor peasants pursuing their rural or pastoral occupations—escaped his diligent pencil. His *first* drawing was a clump of trees—and it was pronounced ' a wonderful thing'—and a future Leslie or Newton may be indicated afar off by a striking sketch or a coarse drawing. We think the young artist who furnished the sketch of the ' Oil Cloth Manufactory' deserves infinite praise for the beautiful manner in which he has managed his subject.

THE FULTON MARKET.

The Fulton Market was built in 1821, upon a lot of ground formerly occupied by unsightly wooden buildings, which were destroyed by fire.

A market place for the accommodation of the butchers and the country people, was anciently *under the trees in front of the fort*, near the corner of Water and Whitehall streets. As the city enlarged, the market places were moved to the east and north, first at the foot of Broad-street, then to Coenties-slip, and subsequently to Old-slip, and to the Vlie,* or Fly Market, foot of Maiden-lane, and to Fulton and Catharine streets.

The market houses of this city are now judiciously distributed in various quarters of the town, to suit the wants and convenience of the citizens; the two principal ones being situated close to the water, one on the Hudson, and one on the East River, at the extremity of Fulton-street on each side, and adjacent to the two most important ferries, which render them very accessible to the country people and the fishermen.

When the Fulton Market was completed, and the stalls put up at auction, the whole number, amounting to 86, were disposed of for $19,015, an average of $216 each. This number was found to be greater than could be profitably occupied, as the victual-

* A Dutch phrase or word, indicating a valley, or low meadow land, as a creek or inlet formerly penetrated the island up Maiden-lane, formerly the Virgin's Faith or Valley, and a rural spot.

lers could not pay their rents; consequently, the number was reduced, and 27 of the stalls in the S. E. wing were allotted to fishermen, and the residue of the stalls were relet at a diminished price. The first sale of the *same number* producing $15,000, and the present receipts being only $6,445. In the same manner, the rooms in the basement, only 21 of which were let at auction for $7,775 per annum, now let for $6,805. The purchase of the ground, and cost of erecting the market, was $220,000. The building is one story, with a basement, from which round stone pillars rise, connected with each other by arches, and supporting the roof. The interior ceiling is arched from one extremity to the other, plastered, and white-washed. The buildings containing the stalls occupy three sides of a square, with double ranges of stalls on each side, the first beginning at South-street, extending up Fulton-street to Front-street; the second, or main front, to Beekman-street; the third, thence to South-street. Over the centre of each of the entrance fronts are rooms of one story, and from the middle one, on Front-street, occupied by the clerk of the market, rises a small neat cupola, containing a bell to notify the close of the market. A separate building for country people, occupies the centre of the block, but entirely insulated from the rest of the edifice, and surrounded with an open paved area, with two pumps. The hucksters' vegetable stalls, with cellars under each, are adjacent to the inside caves of the building on Fulton and Front streets. As the other markets are somewhat on the same model, this description will suffice. The fish cars are in the adjacent slip, and constantly filled with live fish, the smacks arriving hourly from the fishing grounds a few miles out in the Atlantic Ocean, near Sandy Hook.

There is no official account taken in New-York of the vast amount of pork and provisions generally that arrive coastwise, and down the Hudson, and is sold at the docks to consumers in the city, and which constitutes the chief source of supply of many articles of importance, such as butter, cheese, beef, and pork, both fresh and salted, fish, &c.

BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.

Blackwell's Island—the East River—the Shot Tower, are all familiar names to the residents of New-York.

And who that has ever leaped upon a noble steed and trotted out to Howard's, or who that has ever been with a fair lady in a modern stanhope to that delightful resort at the Shot Tower, and will not at once recognise the scenery and the view which appears in the engraving.

As you sit in the Look-out at the top of the hill and watch the river roll swiftly on toward the ocean, your eye rests upon a little boat with four skilful oarsmen struggling against the current, or, as you turn your eyes, you perceive the beautiful pleasure

barge with its sails full bent, and leaping on with wind and tide—now leaning over as if to upset, and then righting again and plunging and shaking the white foam in its seeming wrath and pride—or, stretching the eyesight still further on, it rests again upon the vessel heavy laden with all kinds of merchandise, and moving slowly to its place of destination, to pass in its route the dangerous POT OF HELL GATE, and perhaps by an unlucky wind or a careless helmsman, it will be driven into that frightful eddy and dashed upon those dangerous rocks, where the water is boiling up as though ten thousand evil spirits were at work, and where tens of thousands of property are swallowed by this fearful monster of the deep.

Some superstitious boatmen believe that the wretches chained to the floor of their cells in the PENITENTIARY are in league with the DEVIL, and to get revenge for their confinement, they destroy every vessel passing the GATE which has not been engaged in their nefarious pursuits. However true this may be, it is frightful to point the spy-glass to the opposite island and examine the physiognomies of those despicable *outcasts*. A building of such imposing appearance seems too good a habitation for them: it is a Palace of human misery—a tormenting HELL to their souls.

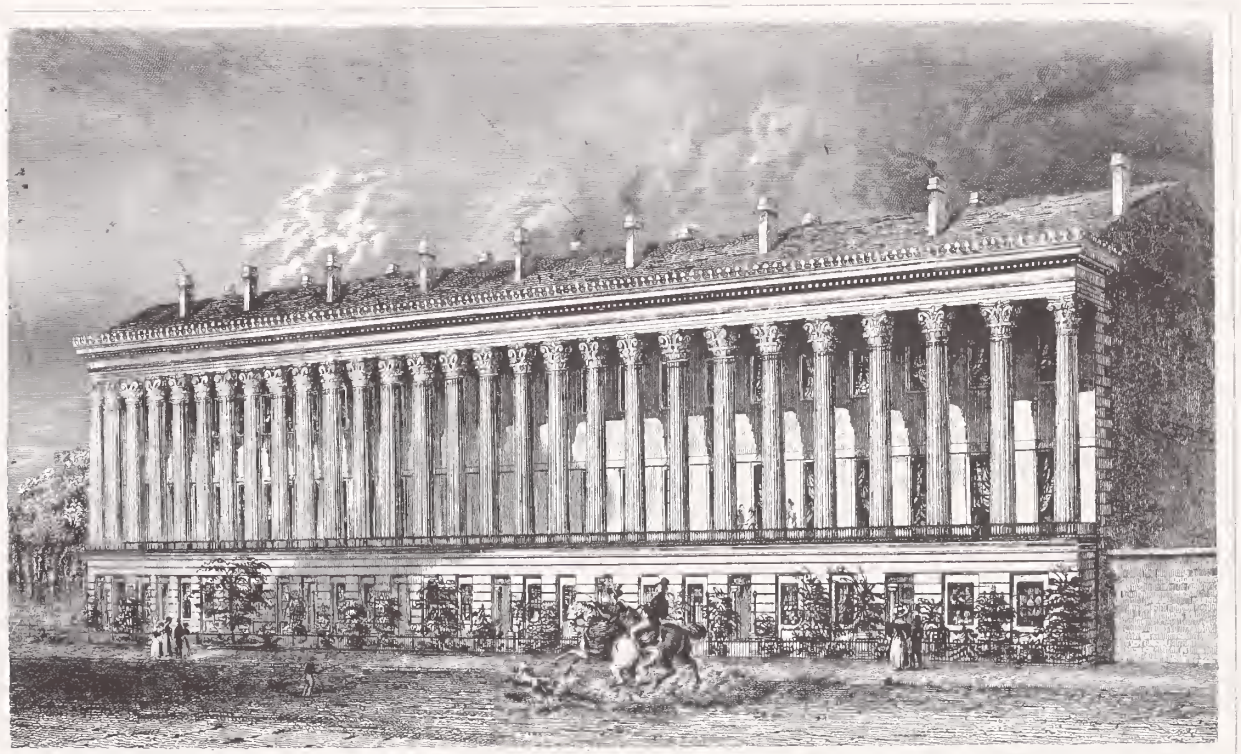
LAFAYETTE PLACE.

There is no city in the Modern World, judging from the rapidity with which splendid structures are continually erected, that has made greater progress toward the appropriate magnificence of a great metropolis, than New-York.

When we recollect that the very site now occupied by the stately range of Le Roy Place, Bond-street, and La Grange Terrace, was but a few years past the seat of the forest and morass, we may well wonder at the advancement we have made, and almost ask in amazement if this be indeed the city where, not a century since, the gable fronted mansions of the Knickerbockers were considered the highest acme of architectural splendour.

Of all the modern improvements which characterize our city, the sumptuous row of houses in Lafayette Place, called after the seat of the venerable Patriot, La Grange Terrace, and of which our publishers présent an accurate engraving, is the most imposing and magnificent.

These costly houses are universally allowed to be unequalled for grandeur and effect. They are built of white marble, the front supported by a rich colonnade of fluted Corinthian columns, resting on the basement story, which is of the Egyptian order of architecture. They were designed and built entirely by Mr. Geer, and all the stone work was executed by the State prisoners at Sing Sing. One of the houses was sold not long since, for 26,500 dollars, a sum greatly below its value.



Dakin Del.

LA GRANGE TERRACE _ LA FAYETTE PLACE.

CITY OF NEW YORK.

New York. Published by Peabody & Co 219 Broadway.